

April 2020 | Final Environmental Impact Report
State Clearinghouse No. 2018081039

CORONA GENERAL PLAN TECHNICAL UPDATE

for City of Corona

Prepared for:

City of Corona

Contact: Joanne Coletta, Community Development Director
400 S. Vicentia Avenue
Corona, California 92882
951.736.2434

Prepared by:

PlaceWorks

Contact: Nicole Vermilion, Principal
3 MacArthur Place, Suite 1100
Santa Ana, California 92707
714.966.9220
info@placeworks.com
www.placeworks.com



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1. Introduction

1.1 INTRODUCTION

This Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as amended (Public Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq.) and CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations §§ 15000 et seq.).

According to the CEQA Guidelines, Section 15132, the FEIR shall consist of:

- (a) The Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) or a revision of the Draft;
- (b) Comments and recommendations received on the DEIR either verbatim or in summary;
- (c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies comments on the DEIR;
- (d) The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process; and
- (e) Any other information added by the Lead Agency.

This document contains responses to comments received on the DEIR for the Corona General Plan Technical Update during the public review period, which began December 19, 2019, and closed February 3, 2020. This document has been prepared in accordance with CEQA and the CEQA Guidelines and represents the independent judgment of the Lead Agency. This document and the circulated DEIR comprise the FEIR, in accordance with CEQA Guidelines, Section 15132.

1.2 FORMAT OF THE FEIR

This document is organized as follows:

Section 1, Introduction. This section describes CEQA requirements and content of this FEIR.

Section 2, Response to Comments. This section provides a list of agencies and interested persons commenting on the DEIR; copies of comment letters received during the public review period, and individual responses to written comments. To facilitate review of the responses, each comment letter has been reproduced and assigned a number (A1 through A-7 for letters received from agencies and organizations). Individual comments have been numbered for each letter and the letter is followed by responses with references to the corresponding comment number.

1. Introduction

Section 3. Revisions to the Draft EIR. This section contains revisions to the DEIR text and figures as a result of the comments received by agencies and interested persons as described in Section 2, and/or errors and omissions discovered subsequent to release of the DEIR for public review.

The responses to comments contain material and revisions that will be added to the text of the FEIR. The City of Corona staff has reviewed this material and determined that none of this material constitutes the type of significant new information that requires recirculation of the DEIR for further public comment under CEQA Guidelines Section 15088.5. None of this new material indicates that the project will result in a significant new environmental impact not previously disclosed in the DEIR. Additionally, none of this material indicates that there would be a substantial increase in the severity of a previously identified environmental impact that will not be mitigated, or that there would be any of the other circumstances requiring recirculation described in Section 15088.5.

1.3 CEQA REQUIREMENTS REGARDING COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

CEQA Guidelines Section 15204 (a) outlines parameters for submitting comments, and reminds persons and public agencies that the focus of review and comment of DEIRs should be “on the sufficiency of the document in identifying and analyzing possible impacts on the environment and ways in which significant effects of the project might be avoided or mitigated. Comments are most helpful when they suggest additional specific alternatives or mitigation measures that would provide better ways to avoid or mitigate the significant environmental effects. At the same time, reviewers should be aware that the adequacy of an EIR is determined in terms of what is reasonably feasible. ...CEQA does not require a lead agency to conduct every test or perform all research, study, and experimentation recommended or demanded by commenters. When responding to comments, lead agencies need only respond to significant environmental issues and do not need to provide all information requested by reviewers, as long as a good faith effort at full disclosure is made in the EIR.”

CEQA Guidelines Section 15204 (c) further advises, “Reviewers should explain the basis for their comments, and should submit data or references offering facts, reasonable assumptions based on facts, or expert opinion supported by facts in support of the comments. Pursuant to Section 15064, an effect shall not be considered significant in the absence of substantial evidence.” Section 15204 (d) also states, “Each responsible agency and trustee agency shall focus its comments on environmental information germane to that agency’s statutory responsibility.” Section 15204 (e) states, “This section shall not be used to restrict the ability of reviewers to comment on the general adequacy of a document or of the lead agency to reject comments not focused as recommended by this section.”

In accordance with CEQA, Public Resources Code Section 21092.5, copies of the written responses to public agencies will be forwarded to those agencies at least 10 days prior to certifying the environmental impact report. The responses will be forwarded with copies of this FEIR, as permitted by CEQA, and will conform to the legal standards established for response to comments on DEIRs.

2. Response to Comments

Section 15088 of the CEQA Guidelines requires the Lead Agency (“The City of Corona” or “The City”) to evaluate comments on environmental issues received from public agencies and interested parties who reviewed the DEIR and prepare written responses.

This section provides all written responses received on the DEIR and the City’s responses to each comment.

Comment letters and specific comments are given letters and numbers for reference purposes. Where sections of the DEIR are excerpted in this document, the sections are shown indented. Changes to the DEIR text are shown in underlined text for additions and ~~strikeout~~ for deletions.

The following is a list of agencies and persons that submitted comments on the DEIR during the public review period.

Number Reference	Commenting Person/Agency	Date of Comment	Page No.
Agencies & Organizations			
A1	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	December 30, 2019	2-3
A2	Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians	January 21, 2020	2-7
A3	Home Gardens Sanitary District, prepared by Harper and Burns LLP	January 23, 2020	2-11
A4	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	January 28, 2020	2-17
A5	Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation	January 30, 2020	2-23
A6	California Department of Fish and Wildlife	February 3, 2020	2-27
A7	Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit	February 4, 2020	2-39

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

LETTER A1 – Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Arysa Gonzales Romero, Historic Preservation Technician (1 page)

From: Gonzalez Romero, Arysa (TRBL) [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 30, 2019 11:23 AM
To: Joanne Coletta <Joanne.Coletta@CoronaCA.gov>
Subject: Notice of Availability (NOA) of a Draft EIR for the City of Corona General Plan Technical Update (State Clearinghouse No. 2018081039)

Greetings,

A records check of the Tribal Historic preservation office's cultural registry revealed that this project is not located within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area. Therefore, we defer to the other tribes in the area. This letter shall conclude our consultation efforts.

A1-1

Thank you,

Arysa Gonzalez Romero
Historic Preservation Technician
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
5401 Dinah Shore Drive Palm Springs, CA 92264
D: 760-883-1327 | C: 760-831-2484

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

A1. Response to Comments from Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Aysa Gonzales Romero, Historic Preservation Technician, dated December 30, 2019.

A1-1 The commenter indicates that the project area is not located within the Tribe's Traditional Use Area, and therefore, as the comment does not raise an issue with the analysis of the DEIR, no further response is necessary.

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

LETTER A2 – Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, Cheryl Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
(1 page)

Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians **CULTURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

One Government Center Lane | Valley Center | CA 92082
(760) 749-1051 | Fax: (760) 749-8901 | rincon-nsn.gov



January 21, 2020

Joanne Coletta
City of Corona
Community Development Department
400 S. Vicentia Avenue
Corona, CA 92882

Re: DEIR for the City of Coronoa General Plan Technical Update; State Clearinghouse No. 2018081039

Dear Ms. Coletta,

This letter is written on behalf of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians. Thank you for providing us with the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the above referenced project. The identified location is within the Territory of the Luiseño people, and is also within Rincon's specific area of Historic interest.

We have reviewed the DEIR and we are in agreement with the measures which include archaeological and Luiseño tribal monitoring, a monitoring report, and protocols for discovery of cultural material and human remains. We have no further concerns pertaining to cultural resources.

A2-1

We do request that the Rincon Band be notified of any changes in project plans. In addition, we request a copy of the final monitoring report, when available.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office at your convenience at (760) 297-2635.

Thank you for the opportunity to protect and preserve our cultural assets.

Sincerely,



Cheryl Madrigal
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Cultural Resources Manager

Bo Mazzetti
Chairman

Tishmall Turner
Vice Chair

Laurie E. Gonzalez
Council Member

Alfonso Kolb, Sr.
Council Member

John Constantino
Council Member

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

A2. Response to Comments Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians, Cheryl Madrigal, Tribal Historic Preservation, dated January 21, 2020.

A2-1 The commenter states that the project area is within the Tribe's specific area of Historic Interest and that the Tribe is in agreement with the mitigation measures included in the DEIR; therefore, as the comment does not raise an issue with the analysis of the DEIR, no further response is necessary.

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

LETTER A3– Home Gardens Sanitary District, prepared by Harper and Burns LLP (1 of 3 pages)



harper & burns LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Alan R. Burns
arburns@harperburns.com

January 23, 2020

Via Electronic Mail

Joanne Colleta
Community Development Director
400 South Vicentia Avenue
Corona, California 92882
Email: Joanne.Coletta@CoronaCA.gov

Re: NOA of Draft EIR for Corona GP

Dear Ms. Colleta:

We are in receipt of your Notice of Availability of the above Environmental Impact Report (EIR). This response is on behalf of the Home Gardens Sanitary District (hereinafter "HGSD"), a responsible agency.

The Home Gardens Sanitary District provides sewer service to an overlapping area that is within both the HGSD and City of Corona boundaries. Additionally portions of your study area may encompass parts of the HGSD that are within your sphere of influence. Your draft EIR recognizes that, but provides on the attached pages, that all sewer connections shall be to the City's sewer system.

We are members, along with Corona, of the West Riverside County Regional Wastewater Authority, and have worked cooperatively on sewer treatment issues. We each continue to provide sewage transportation through sewer lines. In previous times the City and HGSD competed for connections that resulted in a lawsuit. The lawsuit resulted in the Court of Appeals upholding the HGSD's right to provide sewer connection service to property within its boundary. (See *Home Gardens Sanitary Dist. v. City of Corona* (2002) 96 Cal. App. 2d 638.)

Please consider these as our comments as a responsible agency. (15082(b) of the CEQA Guidelines.)

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

HARPER & BURNS LLP

Alan R. Burns
District Counsel

453 S. Glassell, Orange, California 92866-1905 Ph: (714) 771-7728 F: (714) 744-3350

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2. Response to Comments

LETTER A3– Home Gardens Sanitary District, prepared by Harper and Burns LLP (2 of 3 pages)

INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

SEWER/RECLAIMED WATER

The Corona Department of Water and Power is responsible for supplying the majority of sewer collection and treatment services within the City. The Department services a population of approximately 168,000 people over 38.5 square miles. The Temescal Valley Water District (TVWD) provides sewer services to the Temescal Canyon area in the City's southern SOI. The Home Gardens Sanitary District (HGSD) serves the unincorporated areas of Home Gardens. El Cerrito currently relies on septic systems; however, there are plans to extend the City's sewer service to that area.

The City's sewer system consists of 13 sewer lift stations, associated force mains, and gravity sewer pipes. The Home Gardens Sanitary District has 16 miles of sewer lines. Corona's three waste reclamation facilities (WRFs) treat up to 15.5 million gallons per day (mgd). Western Riverside County Regional Wastewater Authority operates a WRF for Home Gardens, and Temescal Valley Water District maintains a WRF for its area. Corona also has capacity for 2.62 mgd in the WRCRWA plant. In accordance with City standards, sewer is treated to tertiary levels so that it can be used for irrigation purposes or safely be discharged to the Santa Ana and Temescal rivers.

The City maintains reclaimed water infrastructure that ties into the sewer reclamation facility. The reclaimed water system treats an average of 11.4 mgd per day and the system consists of three reclaimed water storage tanks, five reclaimed booster stations, and 44 miles of reclaimed water lines. This reclaimed water system produces water that is used for landscape irrigation, golf courses, and parks. The City's reclaimed water master plan estimates existing recycled water demand at 2.0 mgd, which is primarily used for irrigation across the City's service area.



Corona Waste Reclamation Plant #1

A6-1

CONT'D

PUBLIC REVIEW DRAFT 12.2019 | IU-7

2. Response to Comments

LETTER A3– Home Gardens Sanitary District, prepared by Harper and Burns LLP (3 of 3 pages)

INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

GOAL IU-3

A secure sewer collection and treatment system that meets current and projected future daily and peak load demands in Corona and protects public health and the environment in an efficient, equitable, and sustainable manner.

Policies

- IU-3.1** Review, evaluate, and update the City's Sewer Master Plan and related capital improvement programs on a regular basis to plan for expansion and improvement of conveyance, storage, and treatment facilities.
- IU-3.2** Evaluate sewer infrastructure in areas where intensification of land use is anticipated to occur; coordinate capital improvements planning for service infrastructure with the direction, extent, and timing of growth.
- IU-3.3** Build, upgrade, maintain, and expand existing sewer collection and treatment facilities where existing systems are deficient in accordance with the Sewer Master Plan and state and federal standards.
- IU-3.4** Require that new development be connected to the municipal sewer system and ensure that adequate capacity is available for the treatment of generated sewer flows and safe disposal of sludge.
- IU-3.5** As a condition of approval, require that all new development submit a sewer analysis to the satisfaction of the City of Corona prior to the issuance of building permits.
- IU-3.6** Restrict and prioritize sewer connections, if necessary, to comply with available treatment capacity.
- IU-3.7** Ensure that sewer connection fees and charges are reviewed annually and are sufficient to fully fund and support the construction, improvement, and rehabilitation of sewer facilities.
- IU-3.8** Require that new development be connected to the City's sewer system.
- IU-3.9** Continue to require all applicable industries/businesses to obtain sewer discharge permits from the City and to comply with the City's Waste Discharge Pretreatment and Source Control Program.
- IU-3.10** Continue to implement, as appropriate, the requirements of the NPDES and SCAQMD regulations, including requiring the use of Best Management Practices by businesses in the City.

A6-1
CONT'D

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

A3. Response to Comments from Home Gardens Sanitary District, prepared by Harper and Burns LLP, Alan R. Burns, District Counsel, dated January 23, 2020.

A3-1 Comment noted. The Home Gardens Sanitary District (HGSD) provides sewer service to within the City and Corona's sphere of influence (SOI) and has a right to provide sewer connection service to property within its service boundary.

As indicated in Chapter 5.19, *Utilities and Service Systems*, of the Draft EIR, HGSD would provide sewer connection service to properties within Home Gardens. The Commenter's recommended edits to General Plan, Infrastructure and Utilities Element, Policy IU-3.8 to reflect that new development may be connected to a sewer system other than the City's sewer system will be forwarded to the decision-makers.

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

LETTER A4 – California Department of Fish and Wildlife (1 of 3 pages)

From: Gibson, Joanna@Wildlife <Joanna.Gibson@wildlife.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 28, 2020 2:15 PM
To: Joanne Coletta <Joanne.Coletta@CoronaCA.gov>
Subject: Corona General Plan Technical Update, SCH No. 2018081039

Hi Joanne,

I tried calling your desk line this afternoon, but the call rang out and your voice message bank did not pick up.

I am reviewing the DEIR for the City of Corona's General Plan Technical Update, and I am concerned that the document appears to have missed MSHCP conservation criteria associated with independent Criteria Cells within the City of Corona's boundary. For example, if you compare the attached extracted page from the DEIR with the MSHCP mapping information available online (<http://wrcrca.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a73e69d2a64d41c29ehd3acd67467abd>) you will see that the DEIR has only mapped cells that are components of "cell groups" and has omitted Criteria Cells that are independent of cell groups. Specifically, referencing the RCA's online mapping tool, zoom to the northwestern extent of the City's boundary. You will see that the attached extracted page does not depict cells: 1616, 1702,

A4-1

2. Response to Comments

LETTER A4 – California Department of Fish and Wildlife (2 of 3 pages)

1706, 1811, 1812, 1813, 1900, and 1902. Also, near the City's eastern limits, south of E 6th Street and Magnolia Avenue, the graphic has missed independent Criteria Cells 1826, 1923, 1924, 2018, and 2019.

Each of these independent Criteria Cells have conservation objectives, and are associated with wildlife linkages identified in the MSHCP.

I wanted to briefly discuss these concerns with you. I have not yet completed my review of the DEIR, however CDFW will likely be submitting comments to the City on the DEIR.

If you are available for a call to discuss these concerns I would appreciate hearing from you. My office line is identified below in my signature block.

Thank you,

Joanna Gibson
Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist)
CA Department of Fish and Wildlife
Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd., Suite C-220
Ontario, CA 91764
(909) 987-7449 (phone)
Joanna.Gibson@wildlife.ca.gov

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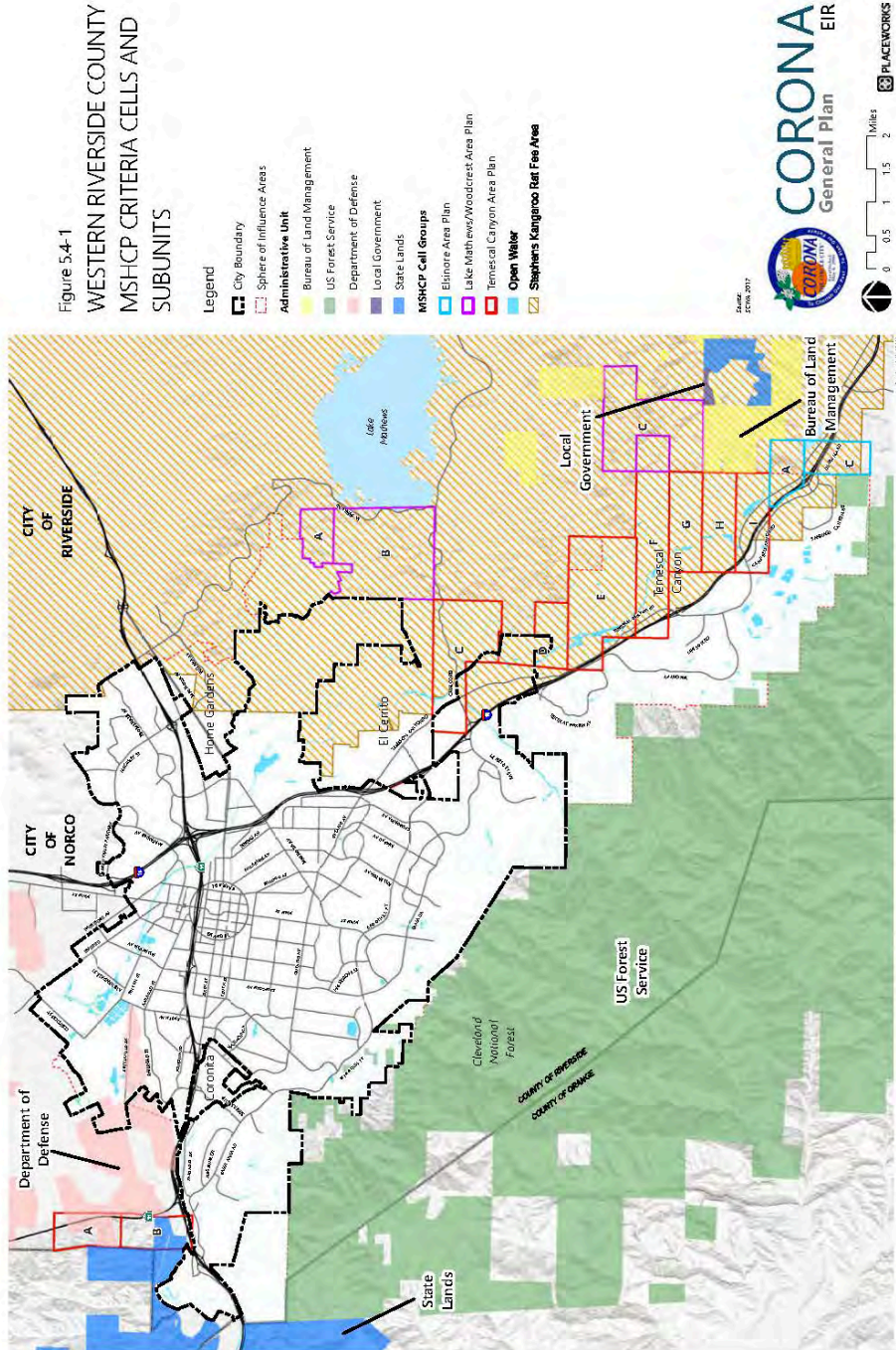
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A4-1
CONT'D

2. Response to Comments

LETTER A4 – California Department of Fish and Wildlife (3 of 3 pages)

Figure 5.4-1
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
MSHCP CRITERIA CELLS AND
SUBUNITS



A4-1
CONT'D

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

A4. Response to Comments from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Joanna Gibson, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), dated January 28, 2020.

A4-1 Figure 5.4-1 in the Draft EIR shows the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Cell Groups but not the Criteria Cells. At the request of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Figure 5.4-1 has been revised to include the MSHCP Criteria Cells. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, and Appendix A, in this FEIR.

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

LETTER A5 – Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation (1 page)



GABRIELENO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS - KIZH NATION
Historically known as The San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
recognized by the State of California as the aboriginal tribe of the Los Angeles basin

Project Name: City of Corona General Plan Technical Update

Dear Joanne Coletta,

Thank you for your letter dated December 19, 2020 regarding AB52 consultation. The above proposed project location is within our Ancestral Tribal Territory; therefore, our Tribal Government requests to schedule a consultation with you as the lead agency, to discuss the project and the surrounding location in further detail.

A5-1

Please contact us at your earliest convenience. **Please Note: AB 52, "consultation" shall have the same meaning as provided in SB 18 (Govt. Code Section 65352.4).**

Thank you for your time,

Andrew Salas, Chairman
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
1(844)390-0787

Andrew Salas, Chairman
Albert Perez, Treasurer I

Nadine Salas, Vice-Chairman
Martha Gonzalez Lemos, Treasurer II

Dr. Christina Swindall Martinez, Secretary
Richard Gradias, Chairman of the Council of Elders

PO Box 593 Corona, CA 91723

admin@gabrielenoindians.org

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

A5. Response to Comments from the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation, Andrew Salas, Chairman, dated January 30, 2020.

A5-1 The letter dated December 19, 2020 was the Notice of Availability for the Draft EIR and not a tribal consultation request. As identified in Section 5.18, *Tribal Cultural Resources*, of the Draft EIR, tribal consultation was conducted in accordance with Senate Bill (SB) 18 and Assembly Bill (AB) 52. Consultation letters for SB 18 and AB 52 were sent to the Tribes, including the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation (Kizh Nation) on August 16, 2018 for the General Plan Update. Kizh Nation requested formal consultation on August 29, 2018 and the City consulted with the Tribe on September 20, 2018 via conference call and provided the draft goals and policies for cultural resources on October 16, 2019. Mitigation measures requested by the Tribe were incorporated into Section 5.18.

2. Response to Comments

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2. Response to Comments

LETTER A6 – California Department of Fish and Wildlife (1 of 7 pages)



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Director's Office
1416 Ninth Street, 12th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.wildlife.ca.gov

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



February 3, 2020
Sent via email

Ms. Joanne Coletta
Community Development Director
City of Corona
400 S. Vicentia Avenue
Corona, CA 92882
joanne.coletta@coronaca.gov

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Report
Corona General Plan Technical Update Project
State Clearinghouse No. 2018081039

Dear Ms. Coletta:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) received the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on December 19, 2019 from the City of Corona (City) for the Corona General Plan Technical Update Project (Project) pursuant the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and CEQA Guidelines.¹

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations regarding those activities involved in the Project that may affect California fish and wildlife. Likewise, we appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding those aspects of the Project that CDFW, by law, may be required to carry out or approve through the exercise of its own regulatory authority under the Fish and Game Code.

A6-1

CDFW ROLE

CDFW is California's Trustee Agency for fish and wildlife resources, and holds those resources in trust by statute for all the people of the State. (Fish & G. Code, §§ 711.7, subd. (a) & 1802; Pub. Resources Code, § 21070; CEQA Guidelines § 15386, subd. (a).) CDFW, in its trustee capacity, has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, and management of fish, wildlife, native plants, and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species. (*Id.*, § 1802.) Similarly, for purposes of CEQA, CDFW is charged by law to provide, as available, biological expertise during

¹ CEQA is codified in the California Public Resources Code in section 21000 et seq. The "CEQA Guidelines" are found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, commencing with section 15000.

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

2. Response to Comments

LETTER A6 – California Department of Fish and Wildlife (2 of 7 pages)

Ms. Joanne Coletta, Community Development Director
City of Corona
February 3, 2020
Page 2

public agency environmental review efforts, focusing specifically on projects and related activities that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources.

CDFW is also submitting comments as a Responsible Agency under CEQA. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21069; CEQA Guidelines, § 15381.) CDFW expects that it may need to exercise regulatory authority as provided by the Fish and Game Code. As proposed, for example, the Project may be subject to CDFW's lake and streambed alteration regulatory authority. (Fish & G. Code, § 1600 et seq.) Likewise, to the extent implementation of the Project as proposed may result in "take" as defined by State law of any species protected under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) (Fish & G. Code, § 2050 et seq.), the Project proponent may seek related take authorization as provided by the Fish and Game Code.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Project proposes a technical update to the existing General Plan to achieve land use, transportation, housing, and other goals of the City that reflect the community's growth for a future horizon year of 2040. The purpose of the Project is to create a policy framework that articulates a vision for the City's long-term physical form and development, while preserving and enhancing the quality of life for the City's residents.

A6-1
CONT'D

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN AND PERMITTEE OBLIGATIONS

CDFW issued Natural Community Conservation Plan Approval and Take Authorization for the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) per Section 2800, *et seq.*, of the California Fish and Game Code on June 22, 2004. The MSHCP establishes a multiple species conservation program to minimize and mitigate habitat loss and provides for the incidental take of covered species in association with activities covered under the permit.

Compliance with approved habitat plans, such as the MSHCP, is discussed in CEQA. Specifically, Section 15125(d) of the CEQA Guidelines requires that the CEQA document discuss any inconsistencies between a proposed Project and applicable general plans and regional plans, including habitat conservation plans and natural community conservation plans. An assessment of the impacts to the MSHCP as a result of this Project is necessary to address CEQA requirements. To obtain additional information regarding the MSHCP please go to: <http://rctlma.org/epd/WR-MSHCP>.

The City is a Permittee to the MSHCP and its associated Implementing Agreement. Section 13.2 of the Implementing Agreement identifies County and Cities Obligations under the MSHCP and states that the County and Cities will "Adopt and maintain ordinances or resolutions as necessary, and amend their general plans as appropriate, to implement the requirements and to fulfill the purposes of the Permits, the MSHCP

2. Response to Comments

LETTER A6 – California Department of Fish and Wildlife (3 of 7 pages)

Ms. Joanne Coletta, Community Development Director
City of Corona
February 3, 2020
Page 3

and this [Implementing] Agreement for private and public development projects...” Following review of the DEIR, CDFW is concerned that the City has not adequately identified the City’s obligations under the MSHCP and its Implementing Agreement. CDFW’s review has identified specific concerns related to the following sections of the DEIR: Biological Resources, Recreation, Transportation and Traffic, and Wildfire. The comments and concerns identified below are not exhaustive. CDFW requests a meeting with the City as soon as possible to discuss our concerns and the City’s obligations under the MSHCP and its Implementing Agreement.

A6-1
CONT'D

Biological Resources

CDFW’s review of the Biological Resources Report (Appendix E) and the Biological Resources section of the DEIR (Section 5) has identified that not all areas subject to MSHCP conservation criteria within the City’s boundary and Sphere of Influence were described and discussed. Specifically, neither Appendix E or Section 5 of DEIR identify or discuss MSHCP conservation criteria associated with independent MSHCP Criteria Cells located in the northwestern extent of the City’s boundary, and within the City’s eastern boundary and adjacent Sphere of Influence Areas. It appears that both Appendix E and Section 5 include only a discussion of MSHCP Criteria Cells that are components of MSHCP Cell Groups and overlooks the independent Criteria Cells. CDFW recommends that the DEIR be revised to include all MSHCP Criteria Cells within and adjacent to the City’s boundary and its Sphere of Influence.

Because independent MSHCP Criteria Cells were not included in the DEIR, the DEIR does not include a discussion of the linkages associated with these criteria cells, and how they are expected to provide for the movement of identified MSHCP planning species between Core Areas. Two proposed constrained linkages are associated with the MSHCP independent Criteria Cells located in the northwestern extent of the City’s boundary: Proposed Constrained Linkage 1 and Proposed Constrained Linkage 2. An additional proposed constrained linkage is also associated with the MSHCP independent Criteria Cells located at the City’s eastern boundary/Sphere of Influence Area: Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. CDFW requests revision of the DEIR to identify and discuss all MSHCP Criteria Cells and their associated conservation objectives located within and immediately adjacent to the City’s boundary/Sphere of Influence. An evaluation of how the City will achieve the conservation objectives of the MSHCP should also be addressed in the DEIR.

A6-2

Because independent MSHCP Criteria Cells were not identified or described in the DEIR, CDFW requests revision of the Wildlife Movement section (DEIR, page 5.4-38) to discuss how the MSHCP objectives and requirements for Proposed Constrained Linkages 1, 2, and 4 are addressed in the General Plan. Associated Figure 5.4-7 should also be revised following review and incorporation of the MSHCP linkage requirements.

2. Response to Comments

LETTER A6 – California Department of Fish and Wildlife (4 of 7 pages)

Ms. Joanne Coletta, Community Development Director
City of Corona
February 3, 2020
Page 4

The DEIR does not clearly address the City's obligations to implement section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP: Guidelines Pertaining to the Urban/Wildlands Interface. CDFW recommends that the DEIR be revised to address and evaluate how the City will ensure that the Project is consistent with section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP and address indirect effects associated with locating development in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Areas.

A6-3

CDFW also recommends the following revisions to Section 5.0 of the DEIR:

- Figure 5.4-3 does not accurately depict critical habitat mapping for coastal California gnatcatcher. Please revise Figure 5.4-3 to reflect accurate mapping for this species.
- Figure 5.4-6 does not include an accurate legend for vegetation types. Please revise so that the figure can be reviewed.

A6-4

Recreation

The Recreation section (Section 5.16) includes a discussion of trails and specific General Plan Policies that include public access to trails. CDFW was unable to find a discussion of, or reference to, the assumptions for covered trails and facilities within the MSHCP Conservation Area as described in the Conditionally Compatible Uses section of the MSHCP (Section 7.4.2). Section 7.4.2 identifies guidelines and criteria for conditionally compatible uses, that are covered within the MSHCP Conservation Area, to help meet the overall conservation goals and objectives of the MSHCP. There are two types of trails that are expected within the MSHCP Conservation Area. The first type is existing community trails, which are primarily used by equestrian users (see Figure 7-3) and adopted planned and proposed regional trails within the MSHCP Criteria Area and Special Linkage Areas (Figures 7-3 and 7-4). The DEIR should demonstrate that the design, construction, and operation of public access facilities will avoid and minimize impacts to MSHCP Conservation Area resources. CDFW recommends that the City consult Figures 7-3 and 7-4 of the MSHCP to complete this analysis and to ensure proposed trails are covered activities under the MSHCP. CDFW requests revision of Section 5.16 to demonstrate how recreation will be consistent with the goals and objectives of the MSHCP.

A6-5

The Existing Regulations and Standard Conditions (Section 5.16.5) of the DEIR identifies regulations and standards related to recreation. CDFW recommends that the City's obligations as a Permittee to the MSHCP and its Implementing Agreement also be identified in this section of the DEIR.

A6-6

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Transportation and Traffic

The Transportation and Traffic section (Section 5.17) evaluates transportation impacts associated with implementation of the Project. Included in this section are Corona's road networks, bikeway plans, and pedestrian facilities. CDFW was unable to find a discussion of, or reference to, the assumptions for covered roads, or for covered trails and facilities with the MSHCP Conservation Area as described in section 7.0 of the MSHCP.

A6-7

CDFW requests revision of Section 5.17 of the DEIR to demonstrate compatibility with the goals and objectives of the MSHCP. CDFW specifically recommends that the City consult Figures 7-1, 7-3, and 7-4 of the MSHCP, and that Section 5.17 of the DEIR identify and describe the City's obligations as a Permittee to the MSHCP and its Implementing Agreement.

Wildfire

The DEIR discusses Wildfire (Section 5.20) within the City and its Sphere of Influence. Included in this section are discussions on vegetation management, fire access, fuel modification requirements, weed abatement, and fire/fuel break maintenance. CDFW is concerned that fuel modification may be identified on existing conservation lands or on lands identified for future conservation under the MSHCP. Because of these concerns, we request a meeting with the City to discuss the Wildfire General Plan Policies identified in the DEIR and how these policies may impact the policies, procedures, and conservation objectives of the MSHCP.

For example, CDFW is concerned with potential impacts to existing and proposed conservation from implementation of the following Land Use Elements, and Public Safety Elements:

A6-8

Land Use Element 2.1 and 4.3. These two land use elements discuss new development. CDFW recommends that these elements be revised, or a new land use element be included in the DEIR, to require future projects to fully describe and identify the location, acreage, and composition of defensible space (including vegetation management zones) and fire access routes *within* proposed development footprints. The City, through their planning processes, should ensure that defensible space and fire access routes are provided and accounted for *within proposed development areas*, and not transferred to adjacent open space or conservation lands.

Land Use Element 16.7 (DEIR page 5.20-19) states "Work with Corona Fire, CAL FIRE and Forest Service and with property owners in affected areas to reduce and minimize the hazards associated with wildfire in the hillsides and open spaces consistent with the goals and policies of the safety element." CDFW recommends that City also require

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consultation with the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), CDFW, United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and relevant land management entities (e.g., Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District, Riverside County Habitat Conservation Authority) where fuel hazards are identified on conservation areas or on lands identified for future conservation under the MSHCP.

Public Safety Elements 10.6 and 10.7 identify fuel modification/fuel hazard reduction for development/buildings and structures in the City's identified Very High Fire Hazard Safety Zones. As previously stated, CDFW recommends that the City require defensible space and fire access routes *within* proposed development footprints. Where fuel modification is proposed to existing or proposed conservation areas adjacent to existing development, CDFW requests that the City consult with CDFW, RCA, USFWS and the afore-mentioned relevant land management entities.

Section 5.20 also identifies that the Corona Fire Department will be preparing a Community Wildlife Protection Plan "... that will continue to improve safety in the wildland-interface areas." (DEIR, page 5.20-17). CDFW requests the opportunity to participate in discussions associated with the preparation of this Plan. We recommend that the RCA, USFWS, Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District, and Riverside County Habitat Conservation Authority also be given the opportunity to participate in the preparation and review of this Plan.

The Existing Regulations section (Section 5.20.5) identifies applicable fire regulations. As a Permittee to the MSHCP, CDFW recommends that the City's obligations under the MSHCP and its Implementing Agreement also be identified in this section of the DEIR.

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA

CEQA requires that information developed in environmental impact reports and negative declarations be incorporated into a database which may be used to make subsequent or supplemental environmental determinations. (Pub. Resources Code, § 21003, subd. (e).) Accordingly, please report any special status species and natural communities detected during Project surveys to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB). Information can be submitted online or via completion of the CNDDDB field survey form at the following link: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Submitting-Data>. The completed form can be mailed electronically to CNDDDB at the following email address: CNDDDB@wildlife.ca.gov. The types of information reported to CNDDDB can be found at the following link: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Data/CNDDDB/Plants-and-Animals>.

FILING FEES

The Project, as proposed, would have an impact on fish and/or wildlife, and assessment of filing fees is necessary. Fees are payable upon filing of the Notice of Determination

A6-8
CONT'D

A6-9

A6-10

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by the Lead Agency and serve to help defray the cost of environmental review by CDFW. Payment of the fee is required in order for the underlying project approval to be operative, vested, and final. (Cal. Code Regs, tit. 14, § 753.5; Fish & G. Code, § 711.4; Pub. Resources Code, § 21089.).

A6-10
CONT'D

CDFW CONCLUSIONS AND FURTHER COORDINATION

CDFW appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DEIR for the City of Corona's General Plan Technical Update Project (SCH No. 2018081039) and recommends that the City address the CDFW's comments and concerns prior to recirculating the revised DEIR. We also request a meeting with the City as soon as possible to discuss our comments.

A6-11

If you should have any questions pertaining to the comments provided in this letter, and to schedule a meeting, please contact Joanna Gibson at (909) 987-7449 or at Joanna.Gibson@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Scott Wilson
Environmental Program Manager

ec: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
HCPB CEQA Coordinator

Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse
State_clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov

United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Karin Cleary-Rose (Karin_Cleary-Rose@fws.gov)

Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
Tricia Campbell (tcampbell@wrcrca.org)

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2. Response to Comments

A6. **Response to Comments from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Scott Wilson, Environmental Program Manager, dated February 4, 2020.**

A6-1 Comment noted – the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is a responsible agency under CEQA for projects that have the potential to adversely affect fish and wildlife resources. The City of Corona is a permittee to the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) and is responsible for ensuring that the City and projects within the City abide by the Implementing Agreement of the MSHCP.

A discussion of the MSHCP and the City’s obligations can be found under the Regulatory Setting for Western Riverside County MSHCP on page 5.4-6 through 5.4-12 in Section 5.4, Biological Resources. As identified in this section, the City of Corona would be responsible for contributing to the additional reserve lands through the development review process to minimize and mitigate habitat loss. If it is determined that all or a portion of a property is needed for inclusion as additional reserve lands, various incentives may be available to the property owner in lieu of or in addition to monetary compensation in exchange for conveyance of property interest such as development rights. As identified on page 5.4-12, the City of Corona has established a MSHCP Mitigation Fee to fund reserves.

At the request of the Commenter, the City of Corona met with the CDFW on February 24, 2020. Responses to CDFW’s comments are addressed in response to Comments A6-2 through A6-9 below.

A6-2 Figure 5.4-1 in the Draft EIR shows the Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Cell Groups but not the Criteria Cells. At the request of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Figure 5.4-1 has been revised to include the MSHCP Criteria Cells. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, and Appendix A, in this FEIR.

While the MSHCP Criteria Cells were not identified in Figure 5.4-1 in the Draft EIR, the Draft EIR did identify the linkages on page 5.4-6 through 5.4-12 in Section 5.4, Biological Resources. Figure 5.4-7, *Potential Wildlife Movement Corridors*, shows the potential linkages within the City and sphere of influence (SOI) (shown as “Wildlife Movement” arrows). As shown on this figure, wildlife corridors can be found in the northwestern portion of the City and on the eastern boundary of the City and SOI, which provide linkages to the existing open space areas to facilitate wildlife movement. At the request of CDFW, Figure 5.4-7 has been revised to generally show Proposed Constrained Linkage No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, and Appendix A, in this FEIR.

At the request of the Commenter the existing regulatory setting has been updated to identify the conservation objectives for the linkages in the MSHCP. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, in this FEIR

2. Response to Comments

A6-3 The General Plan is a program-level policy document. Impact 5.4-4 evaluates potential impacts to wildlife movement and provides a summary of the wildlife linkages identified in the regulatory setting. Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP identifies the measures to reduce impacts to/from:

- Drainage
- Toxics
- Lighting
- Invasives

As identified in the MSHCP “Existing local regulations are generally in place that address the issues presented in this section. Specifically, the County of Riverside and the 14 Cities within the MSHCP Plan Area have approved general plans, zoning ordinances and policies that include mechanisms to regulate the development of land. In addition, project review and impact mitigation that are currently provided through the CEQA process address these issues.”

As identified in the MSHCP, future discretionary projects within the City would be required to conduct a project-level biological resources evaluation to evaluate project-level impacts and implement these general management measure through the CEQA process. In addition to these mandatory measures, the General Plan Environmental Resources Element provides several additional goals and policies to achieve the conservation objectives of MSHCP, including Policies ER-4.2, ER-4.3, ER-6.2 and ER-6.5 to further minimize impacts to wildlife movement and regulate the development of land. As identified in the Draft EIR, Mitigation Measure BIO-6 requires a habitat connectivity/wildlife corridor evaluation for future development projects that may impact existing connectivity areas and wildlife linkages. At the request of the Commenter Impact 5.4-4 has been revised to include the MSHCP requirements for drainage, toxics, lighting, and invasives identified in Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, in this FEIR.

A6-4 Figure 5.4-3 in the Draft EIR provides the latest critical habitat map for the California gnatcatcher. Because the California gnatcatcher is based on the latest maps available, no edits to this figure are necessary. However, the General Plan Figure ER-3, Designated Critical Habitat, showed an incorrect map and will be updated.

At the request of the Commenter Figure 5.4-6, *Vegetation*, has been updated to include the legend for the habitat types. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, and Appendix A, in this FEIR.

A6-5 The General Plan is a program-level policy document and does not result in physical construction of public access trails. New trails are not proposed in the MSCHP Conservation Area. Figure 7-3 and Figure 7-4 in the MSHCP identify existing and planned

2. Response to Comments

public access trails covered by the MSHCP, respectively. The General Plan update does not include construction of new trails. The City is preparing a Trails Master Inventory that identifies existing trails in the City and identify potential linkages. As identified in the MSHCP, future discretionary projects within the City would be required to conduct a project-level biological resources evaluation to evaluate project-level impacts and implement these general management measure through the CEQA process. Additionally, Policy PR-6.6 requires that multipurpose trails do not impact natural habitat or wildlife. Construction and improvement of trails must abide by the guidelines identified in Section 7.4.2 of the MSHCP for public access. Mitigation Measures BIO-1 through BIO-5 ensure that future development where there is potential for sensitive biological resources to occur will prepare a biological resources report to minimize or avoid impacts to sensitive resources. Because the proposed project does not include expansion of the existing trails network, the General Plan policies above would ensure that the recreational objectives would not conflict with the goals and objectives of the MSHCP.

- A6-6 At the request of the Commenter the existing regulatory setting has been updated to identify the regulations and standards related to recreation and the obligations of the City as a Permittee to the MSHCP under the Implementing Agreement. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, in this FEIR.
- A6-7 Figure 7-1 in the MSCHP identifies existing and planned roadways in the Criteria Area, which were based on the City's previous General Plan Update. The proposed project does not include any land use changes from the previous 2004 General Plan Update and changes to the circulation network in the sphere of influence (SOI) were made to reflect adopted plans within the County of Riverside. It should be noted that the Corona General Plan does not assume implementation of the Riverside County Transportation Commission's Hemet to Corona/Lake Elsinore Corridor Alternative, as implementation of this alternative is speculative and not reasonably foreseeable during the horizon of the 2040 General Plan. Furthermore, the General Plan does not include construction of individual projects, including roadway or trail projects. Projects implemented by the City and/or private landowners are subject to CEQA, which includes evaluation of biological resources impacts and compatibility with the measures outlined in the MSHCP. At the request of the Commenter the existing regulatory setting has been updated to identify the City's obligations as a Permittee to the MSHCP under the Implementing Agreement. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, in this FEIR.
- A6-8 At the request of the Commenter, the City of Corona met with the CDFW on February 24, 2020 to discuss new/revised policies in the General Plan to address the CDFW's concerns regarding vegetation management for wildfire. The requested changes to the policies in the General Plan, that are identified in the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, in this FEIR.

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The General Plan is a program-level policy document and the location of what a project's fuel modification are and if they would extend into conservation lands is speculative as part of this programmatic evaluation. As specified in Section 5.4 of the EIR, discretionary projects would be required to prepare a biological resources evaluation (see Mitigation Measure BIO-1). The project's on- and off-site impacts to habitat associated with the project's fuel management requirements would be required to be evaluated as part of the project-level analysis. At the request of the Commenter the existing regulatory setting has been updated to identify applicable fire regulations as a Permittee to the MSHCP under the Implementing Agreement. The requested change to the EIR can be found in Chapter 3, *Revisions to the DEIR*, in this FEIR.

- A6-9 At the request of the Commenter, future discretionary projects that require special status species protocol surveys will be submitted to the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDD) in accordance with CEQA.
- A6-10 Comment Noted. Applicable fees would be paid to the CDFW if/when the proposed General Plan Update is adopted and the EIR is Certified.
- A6-11 Responses to Comments are provided above. As identified above, at the request of the Commenter, the City of Corona met with the CDFW on February 24, 2020.

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LETTER A7 – Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit (1 page)



Gavin Newsom
Governor

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Governor’s Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit



Kate Gordon
Director

February 4, 2020

Joanne Coletta
Corona, City of
400 S. Vicentia Avenue
Corona, CA 92882



Subject: Corona General Plan Technical Update
SCH#: 2018081039

Dear Joanne Coletta:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named EIR to selected state agencies for review. On the enclosed Document Details Report please note that the Clearinghouse has listed the state agencies that reviewed your document. The review period closed on 2/3/2020, and the comments from the responding agency (ies) is (are) available on the CEQA database for your retrieval and use. If this comment package is not in order, please notify the State Clearinghouse immediately. Please refer to the project’s ten-digit State Clearinghouse number in future correspondence so that we may respond promptly.

Please note that Section 21104(c) of the California Public Resources Code states that:

“A responsible or other public agency shall only make substantive comments regarding those activities involved in a project which are within an area of expertise of the agency or which are required to be carried out or approved by the agency. Those comments shall be supported by specific documentation.”

Check the CEQA database for submitted comments for use in preparing your final environmental document: <https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2018081039/2>. Should you need more information or clarification of the comments, we recommend that you contact the commenting agency directly.

This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act. Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process.

Sincerely,

Scott Morgan
Director, State Clearinghouse

cc: Resources Agency

A7-1

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 3044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-3044
TEL 1-916-445-0613 state.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov www.opr.ca.gov

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2. Response to Comments

A7. Response to Comments from the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research, State Clearinghouse and Planning Unit, Scott Morgan, Director, dated February 4, 2020.

A7-1 This letter acknowledges that the City has complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements. Responses to state agency comments provided by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife are provided in Comment Letters A4 and A6. No further response is necessary.

2. Response to Comments

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3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

3.1 INTRODUCTION

This section contains revisions to the DEIR based upon (1) additional or revised information required to prepare a response to a specific comment; (2) applicable updated information that was not available at the time of DEIR publication; and/or (3) typographical errors. This section also includes additional mitigation measures to fully respond to commenter concerns as well as provide additional clarification to mitigation requirements included in the DEIR.

None of the revisions to the DEIR require recirculation of the document. Recirculation is only required when significant new information is added. Information is not significant unless the EIR is changed in a way that deprives the public of a meaningful opportunity to comment upon a substantial adverse environmental effect or a feasible way to mitigate or avoid such an effect. Recirculation is not required where the new information merely clarifies, amplifies, or makes insignificant modifications. (CEQA Guidelines § 15088.5.) As explained below, none of the changes adds any new significant information and recirculation is not required.

The DEIR also includes revisions based on the Riverside County Airport Land Use Commission's (ALUC) determination on March 12, 2020 that the General Plan Update is consistent with the Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP).

Changes made to the DEIR are identified here in ~~strikeout text~~ to indicate deletions and in underlined text to signify additions.

3.2 DEIR REVISIONS IN RESPONSE TO WRITTEN COMMENTS AND TECHNICAL REVISIONS

The following text and/or graphics have been revised in response to comments received on the DEIR.

Page 2-4, Chapter 2, *Introduction*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

The EIR identified the following impacts as less than significant or no impact in the DEIR.

- Aesthetics
- Energy
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

- Population and Housing
 - Public Services
 - Recreation
 - Utilities and Service Systems
 - Wildlife
-

Page 2-4, Chapter 2, *Introduction*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

This DEIR identifies ~~eight~~ seven significant and unavoidable adverse impacts, as defined by CEQA, that would result from implementation of the proposed project. Unavoidable adverse impacts may be considered significant on a project-specific basis, cumulatively significant, and/or potentially significant. The City must prepare a “statement of overriding considerations” before it can approve the project, attesting that the decision-making body has balanced the benefits of the proposed project against its unavoidable significant environmental effects and has determined that the benefits outweigh the adverse effects, and therefore the adverse effects are considered acceptable. The impacts that were found in the DEIR to be significant and unavoidable are:

- Air Quality
 - Agriculture and Forestry Resources
 - Cultural Resources
 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 - ~~Land Use and Planning~~
 - Mineral Resources
 - Noise
 - Transportation
-

Page 5.4-9, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Figure 5.4-1, *Western Riverside MSHCP Criteria Cells and Subunits*, was revised to show the criteria cells in addition to the subgroups, in response to comment letters A4 and A6. Revised Figures are included in Appendix A of this Final EIR.

Page 5.4-12, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following text has been added to provide information on criteria cells within the subunits, in response to comment letter A6.

- **Subunit 5 (Temescal/Santa Ana Mountains)** is in the southeast portion of the Temescal Canyon area. Target acreage range for additional reserve lands in this subunit is 35 to 85 acres. Planning species include Bell’s sage sparrow, coastal California gnatcatcher, and bobcat. Biological issues and considerations, which are not MSHCP requirements, include:

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

- Provide for upland linkage from the Temescal Canyon Wash to Santa Ana Mountains.
- Maintain linkage area for bobcat.

The criteria cells within these subunits are further defined to demonstrate the conservation to take place within these areas. These criteria cells are shown in Figure 5.4-1 with the conservation in each criteria cell described in the Table 5.4-1, *Conservation Criteria for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan.*

Table 5.4-1 Conservation Criteria for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan

<u>Sub Unit</u>	<u>Cell Group</u>	<u>Quadrant Number</u>	<u>Quarter Section</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
SUBUNIT 1: Santa Ana River to Santa Ana Mountains				
1		1702	SW	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 1. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub and grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cells #1704 to the east and #1811 to south. Conservation within this Cell will range from 20%-30% of the Cell focusing on the eastern portion Cell.
1		1704	SE	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 1. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cells #1812 and #1702 to the south and west. Conservation within this Cell will be approximately 5% focusing on the southwestern portion of the Cell.
1		1706	SW	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest, associated with the Prado Flood Control Basin and the Santa Ana River and grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to habitat proposed for conservation in Cells #1813 and #1616 to the south and north. Conservation within this Cell will range from 15%-25% focusing on the western portion of the Cell.
1		1811	NW	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 1. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub, chaparral, and water. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to uplands proposed for conservation to the south, east, and north in Cells #1896, #1812, and #1702. Conservation within this Cell will range from 50%-60% focusing on the eastern portion of the Cell
1		1812	NE	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 1. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub and chaparral. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cells #1898, #1811, and Cell #1704 to the south, west, and north. Conservation within this Cell will range from 25%-35% focusing on the western portion of the Cell.
1		1813	NW	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub, and riparian scrub, woodland, forest. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian scrub, woodland, forest, coastal sage scrub and chaparral habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #1900 to the south, and to wetlands in Cell #1706 to the north. Conservation within this Cell will range from 15%-25% focusing on the eastern portion of the Cell.
1		1896	SW	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 1. Conservation within this Cell will focus on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cells #1898 and #1811 to the east

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Table 5.4-1 Conservation Criteria for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan

<u>Sub Unit</u>	<u>Cell Group</u>	<u>Quadrant Number</u>	<u>Quarter Section</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
				and north. Conservation within this Cell will range from 5%-15% focusing on the northeastern portion of the Cell
1		1898	SE	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 1. Conservation within this Cell will focus on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #1812 to the north. Conservation within this Cell will range from 50%-60% focusing on the eastern and northern portions of the Cell.
1		1900	SW	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 1. Conservation within this Cell will focus on chaparral, coastal sage scrub, and riparian scrub, woodland, forest. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to chaparral habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #1898 to the west, to chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #1902 to the east, and a variety of upland and wetland habitats proposed for conservation to the north in Cell #1813. Conservation within this Cell will range from 30%-40% focusing on the eastern portions of the Cell
1		1902	SE	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on chaparral and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to chaparral habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #1900 to the west. Conservation within this Cell will range from 5%-15% focusing on the southwestern portions of the Cell.
SUBUNIT 2: Prado Basin				
2	A	1331	SE	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 1 and Existing Core A. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with the Prado Flood Control Basin and the Santa Ana River, and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to wetlands proposed for conservation in Cell Group B to the south. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 40%-50% focusing on the western portions of the Cell Group
2	A	1426	NE	
2	B	1520	SE	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 1 and Existing Core A. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on a variety of wetland habitat associated with the Prado Flood Control Basin and the Santa Ana River, and grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to wetlands and uplands proposed for conservation in Cell #1616 to the east, and Cell Group A to the north. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 20%-30% focusing on the northern and southeastern portions of the Cell Group.
2	B	1612	NE	
2		1616	NW	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Existing Core A. Conservation within this Cell will focus on a variety of wetland habitat associated with the Prado Flood Control Basin and the Santa Ana River, and grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to wetlands and uplands proposed for conservation in Cell Group B to the west and Cell #1706 to the south. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 25%-35% focusing on the central and western portions of the Cell.
SUBUNIT 3: Temescal Wash West				
3	C	2400	NW	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on coastal sage scrub, grassland, and riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with Temescal Wash. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to uplands and wetlands proposed for conservation in Cells #2304, #2306, #2307, and #2308 to the north, and Cell Group D to the south. Conservation within this Cell Group will range
3	C	2402	NE	
3	C	2403	NW	
3	C	2404	NE	
3	C	2407	SW	
3	C	2509	SE	

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Table 5.4-1 Conservation Criteria for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan

Sub Unit	Cell Group	Quadrant Number	Quarter Section	Criteria
3	C	2612	NE	from 55%-65% of the Cell Group focusing on the central and eastern portions of the Cell Group.
3	D	2610	NW	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on coastal sage scrub, grassland, and wetland habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to a variety of uplands proposed for conservation in Cell Groups C and E to the north and south. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 75%-85% of the Cell Group focusing on the central and eastern portions of the Cell Group.
3	D	2720	SE	
3	D	2723	SW	
3	E	2827	NW	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on coastal sage scrub and Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub in a mosaic of upland habitat, and water and riparian scrub, woodland, forest habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to a variety of uplands and wetlands proposed for conservation in Cell Group D to the north and Cell Group F to the south. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 65%-75% of the Cell Group focusing on the central portions of the Cell Group.
3	E	2828	NE	
3	E	2829	NW	
3	E	2830	NE	
3	E	2931	SE	
3	E	2932	SW	
3	E	2934	SE	
3	F	3035	NE	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on coastal sage scrub and Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub in a mosaic of upland habitat, and water and riparian scrub, woodland, forest habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to a variety of uplands and wetlands proposed for conservation in Cell Group E to the north, Cell Group G to the south, and to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cells #2937 and #2935 in the Lake Matthews Area Plan to the north. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 65%-75% of the Cell Group focusing on the central and eastern portions of the Cell Group.
3	F	3036	NW	
3	F	3037	NE	
3	F	3039	NE	
3	F	3041	NW	
3	G	3142	SE	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on assembly of coastal sage scrub and Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, chaparral, and water and riparian scrub, woodland, forest habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to a variety of uplands and wetlands proposed for conservation in Cell Group F to the north, Cell Group H to the south, and to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell Group C in the Lake Matthews Area Plan to the east. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 75%-85% of the Cell Group focusing on the central and eastern portions of the Cell Group.
3	G	3143	SW	
3	G	3144	SE	
3	H	3245	NE	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on coastal sage scrub in a mosaic of upland habitat, and water and riparian scrub, woodland, forest habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to a variety of uplands and wetlands proposed for conservation in Cell Group G to the north, Cell Group I to the south, and to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #3249 in the Elsinore Area Plan to the east. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 70%-80% of the Cell Group focusing on the central and eastern portions of the Cell Group.
3	H	3246	NW	
3	H	3248	NE	
3	I	3348	SE	Conservation within this Cell Group will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell Group will focus on Riversidean alluvial fan sage scrub, coastal sage scrub, and riparian scrub, woodland, forest habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell Group will be connected to a variety of uplands and wetlands proposed for conservation in Cell Group H to the north, to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #3448 in the Elsinore
3	I	3349	SW	
3	I	3350	SE	

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Table 5.4-1 Conservation Criteria for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan

<u>Sub Unit</u>	<u>Cell Group</u>	<u>Quadrant Number</u>	<u>Quarter Section</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
				Area Plan to the south, and to coastal sage scrub, riparian habitat and water proposed for conservation in Cell #3351 in the Elsinore Area Plan to the east. Conservation within this Cell Group will range from 55%-65% of the Cell Group focusing on the northern and eastern portions of the Cell Group.
<u>3</u>		<u>1826</u>	<u>NE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on water associated with Temescal Wash. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to water proposed for conservation to the south in Cell #1923. Conservation within this Cell will range from 15%-25% focusing on the southern portion of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>1923</u>	<u>SE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on water and riparian habitat associated with Temescal Wash. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to water proposed for conservation to the north in Cell #1826, and to riparian habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #1924 to the east. Conservation within this Cell will range from 10%-20% focusing on the northern and eastern portions of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>1924</u>	<u>SW</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with Temescal Wash. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat proposed for conservation to the west and south in Cells #1923 and #2018. Conservation within this Cell will range from 5%-15% focusing on the western portions of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2018</u>	<u>NE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest and water associated with Temescal Wash, and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat proposed for conservation to the north in Cell #1924, and to riparian habitat and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation to the south and southeast in Cells #2113 and #2114. Conservation within this Cell will range from 15%-25% focusing on the central and southeastern portions of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2019</u>	<u>NW</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with Temescal Wash. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat proposed for conservation in Cells #2018, #2113, and #2114 to the west, southwest, and south. Conservation within this Cell will be approximately 5% focusing on the south and southwestern portions of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2113</u>	<u>SE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with Temescal Wash, and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #2114 to the east, and to riparian habitat and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation in Cell #2018 to the north. Conservation within this Cell will be approximately 5% focusing on the northeastern portion of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2114</u>	<u>SW</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with Temescal Wash, coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation in Cells #2019, #2113, and #2206 to the north, west, and south. Conservation within this Cell will range from 15%-25% focusing on the north and eastern portions of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2206</u>	<u>NW</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest

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Table 5.4-1 Conservation Criteria for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan

<u>Sub Unit</u>	<u>Cell Group</u>	<u>Quadrant Number</u>	<u>Quarter Section</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
				associated with Temescal Wash, grassland, and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation in Cell #2304 to the south and in Cell #2114 to the north. Conservation within this Cell will range from 35%-45% focusing on the eastern portions of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2208</u>	<u>NE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 4. Conservation within this Cell will focus on grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to grassland habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #2206 to the west, and to coastal sage scrub and riparian habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #2306 to the south. Conservation within this Cell will be approximately 5% focusing on the western portion of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2304</u>	<u>SW</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with Temescal Wash, coastal sage scrub and grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to uplands and wetlands proposed for conservation in Cells #2206 and #2306 to the north and east, and Cell Group C to the south. Conservation within this Cell will range from 20%-30% focusing on the eastern portion of the Cell.
<u>3</u>		<u>2306</u>	<u>SE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on riparian scrub, woodland, forest associated with Temescal Wash, coastal sage scrub and grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat and grassland proposed for conservation in Cell #2304 to the west and Cell Group C to the south, and to adjacent riparian scrub proposed for conservation in Cell #2206 to the northwest. Conservation within this Cell will range from 70%-80% focusing on the central and western portions of the Cell.
SUBUNIT 4: La Sierra Hills/Lake Mathews West				
<u>4</u>		<u>2117</u>	<u>SE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub, grassland, and riparian habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to coastal sage scrub, and riparian habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #2211 to the south, and to grassland and coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell Group B in the Lake Mathew Area Plan to the east. Conservation within this Cell will range from 30%-40% focusing on the eastern portions of the Cell.
<u>4</u>		<u>2211</u>	<u>NE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub, grassland, and riparian habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to coastal sage scrub and riparian habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #2117 to the north, to grassland, coastal sage scrub, and riparian habitat proposed for conservation in Cell #2308 to the south, and to riparian scrub and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation in Cell Group B in the Lake Mathews Area Plan to the east. Conservation within this Cell will range from 50%-60% focusing on the eastern portions of the Cell.
<u>4</u>		<u>2307</u>	<u>SW</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub, grassland, and riparian habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation in Cell Group C to the south, and to grassland, riparian habitat and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation in Cells #2306 and #2308 to the west and east. Conservation within this Cell will range from 10%-20% focusing on the southeastern portion of the Cell.

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Table 5.4-1 Conservation Criteria for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan

<u>Sub Unit</u>	<u>Cell Group</u>	<u>Quadrant Number</u>	<u>Quarter Section</u>	<u>Criteria</u>
<u>4</u>		<u>2308</u>	<u>SE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Extension of Existing Core 2. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub, grassland, and riparian habitat. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to riparian habitat, grassland, and coastal sage scrub proposed for conservation in Cell #2211 to the north, and Cell #2307 to the west, to grassland and coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell Group C to the south, and to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell Group B in the Lake Matthews Area Plan to the east. Conservation within this Cell will range from 75%-85% focusing on the central and eastern portions of the Cell.
SUBUNIT 5: Temescal/Santa Ana Mountains				
<u>5</u>		<u>3448</u>	<u>NE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 3. Conservation within this Cell will focus on grassland and coastal sage scrub. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to grassland habitat proposed for conservation in Cell # 3546 to the south. Conservation within this Cell will be approximately 5% focusing on the south-central portion of the Cell.
<u>5</u>		<u>3545</u>	<u>SW</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 3. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub and grassland. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell # 3546 to the east. Conservation within this Cell will range from 5-15% focusing on the east-central portion of the Cell.
<u>5</u>		<u>3546</u>	<u>SE</u>	Conservation within this Cell will contribute to assembly of Proposed Constrained Linkage 3. Conservation within this Cell will focus on coastal sage scrub, grassland, woodlands and forest, and chaparral. Areas conserved within this Cell will be connected to grassland habitat proposed for conservation in Cell # 3448 to the north, and to coastal sage scrub habitat proposed for conservation in Cell # 3545 to the west. Conservation within this Cell will range from 25-35% focusing on the western and northern portions of the Cell.
Source: MSHCP 2002				

Page 5.4-13, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following text has been revised to accommodate a change to the table numbering.

Sensitive or special status communities are vegetation types, associations, or subassociations with a Global or State Rank of 3 or lower; additionally, riparian communities are always considered sensitive. A CNDDDB query identified 12 special status natural communities that occur in the study area, as shown in Table 5.4-42, *Sensitive Natural Communities in the Study Area*. Of these communities, six sensitive habitats have CNDDDB records in the City and SOI...

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Page 5.4-14, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Table 5.4-1, *Sensitive Natural Communities in the Study Area*, has been renumbered to Table 5.4-2.

Table 5.4-2 Sensitive Natural Communities in the Study Area

Natural Community	Global / State Rank
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Page 5.4-23, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following text has been revised to accommodate a change to the table numbering.

A review of CNDDDB and the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory identified species that may occur in the City or SOI identified 64 special status species have CNDDDB or the CNPS Rare Plant Inventory records within the study area (see Table 5.4-23, *Special Status Plant Species with Records in the Study Area*, and Figure 5.4-4, *California Natural Diversity Database Records in the Region*).

Page 5.4-23, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Table 5.4-2, *Special Status Plant Species with Records in the Study Area*, has been renumbered to Table 5.4-3.

Table 5.4-3 Special Status Plant Species with Records in the Study Area

Species Name	Habitat	Status	CRPR	Most Recent CNDDDB Siting
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Page 5.4-27, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following text has been revised to accommodate a change to the table numbering.

A review of CNDDDB identified species that may occur in the City or SOI shows 59 special status wildlife species have CNDDDB records within the study area, as shown in Table 5.4-34, *Special Status Wildlife Species in the Study Area*. Critical habitat for the following species has been documented either in or adjacent to the City or SOI—Santa Ana sucker, western yellow-billed cuckoo, southwestern willow flycatcher, coastal California gnatcatcher, and least Bell’s vireo. A description of habitat requirements for these species has been included in Table 5.4-34. Some of the special status species—such as the special status fish, western pond turtle, and two-striped garter snake—require permanent sources of water or specific vegetation community composition for it to be considered habitat.

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Page 5.4-27, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Table 5.4-3, *Special Status Wildlife Species in the Study Area*, has been renumbered to Table 5.4-4.

Table 5.4-3~~4~~ Special Status Wildlife Species in the Study Area

Species Name	Habitat ¹	Status	Most Recent CNDDB Siting
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Page 5.4-39, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Figure 5.4-6, *Vegetation*, was revised to include the legend, in response to comment letter A6. Revised Figures are included in Appendix A of this Final EIR.

Pages 5.4-41, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following text has been revised and/or added to provide information on Constrained Linkages, in response to comment letter A6.

In the city, the few areas with natural characteristics that could be used by wildlife as movement or migratory corridors occur in core and constrained linkages identified in the Western Riverside County MSHCP for the Temescal Canyon Area Plan, orchards and along drainages. Constrained Linkage 1 of the MSCHP is located in the northwest portion of the City providing connection to the Prado Basin and Santa Ana River and the Cleveland National Forest to the south. Constrained Linkage 2 consists of Fresno Canyon and is east of Constrained Linkage 1. Constrained Linkage 2 also provided connection to the Prado Basin and Santa Ana River with the Cleveland National Forest to the south. Constrained Linkage 4 consists of the Temescal Canyon Wash on the east end of the City and extends from Indiana Avenue to El Cerrito Road. Constrained Linkage 4 provides habitat for wetland species, narrow endemic plant species and movement for species connecting core areas in Lake Mathews/Estelle Mountain and areas upstream along Temescal Wash (see Figure 5.4-7, *Potential Wildlife Movement Corridors*. The following briefly describes the purpose of Constrained Linkages 1, 2, and 4 in the MSHCP. The most prominent features that may provide valuable habitat linkage are the Bedford Wash and Temescal Canyon Wash; together these two ephemeral drainages connect the Cleveland National Forest and the Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve. This potential corridor is labeled as the Bedford Wash to Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve Corridor. Some smaller mobile species may be able to use the channelized washes that bisect the city, particularly during the dry season. Within the City of Corona, there are no other notable wildlife movement and migratory corridors that link large areas of open space; however, there is potential value in establishing a corridor between the Chino Hills State Park and the Cleveland National Forest by circumventing SR-91. This highway poses a substantial barrier to wildlife movement between two large open spaces.

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Constrained Linkage 1

Constrained Linkage 1 is located in the northwest portion of the Plan Area of the MSHCP which includes portions within the City of Corona. The Linkage connects Existing Core A (Prado Basin/Santa Ana River) with Existing Core B (Cleveland National Forest) to the south shown in Figure 5.4-1. Existing urban development constrains the Linkage at its northern terminus, but the Linkage is unconstrained in the south. State Route 91 also intersects this Linkage at its northern border. Despite this, Constrained Linkage 1 likely provides for movement of mountain lion and bobcat from the Santa Ana Mountains to the Chino Hills area beyond the Plan Area. Maintenance of contiguous habitat blocks with appropriate refugia for resting, such as rockpiles, brushpiles, windfalls, hollow snags and hollow trees, is important for dispersal of juveniles in this proposed Linkage.

MSHCP guidelines pertaining to Urban/Wildlands Interface for the management of edge factors such as lighting, urban runoff, toxics, and domestic predators for this Linkage shall be done when considering development in this area. Additionally, as SR-91 intersects the Linkage at its northern terminus, an adequate wildlife underpass or overpass may need to be implemented to ensure movement of species in this area and to reduce the chance of mortality from vehicle collision.

Constrained Linkage 2

Constrained Linkage 2 consists of Fresno Canyon, located east of Constrained Linkage 1. Like Proposed Constrained Linkage 1, this Linkage connects Existing Core A (Prado Basin and Santa Ana River) with Existing Core B (Cleveland National Forest) to the south in Figure 5.4-1. Unlike Constrained Linkage 1, however, the Fresno Canyon Constrained Linkage provides a riparian connection from the Prado Basin and Santa Ana River to the Cleveland National Forest, thus allowing for movement of species such as coast range newt and western pond turtle. This Linkage is also likely to be important for mountain lion movement from the Santa Ana Mountains to the Chino Hills beyond the Plan Area. Maintenance of contiguous habitat blocks with appropriate refugia for resting, such as rockpiles, brushpiles, windfalls, hollow snags and hollow trees, is important for dispersal of juveniles in this proposed Linkage. Existing agricultural use and a small amount of urban Development constrain the Linkage along much of its length, and the vast majority of the Linkage is surrounded by a city (Corona) planned land use designation; thus treatment and management of edge conditions along this Linkage will be necessary to ensure that it provides habitat and movement functions for species using the Linkage. MSHCP guidelines pertaining to Urban/Wildlands Interface for the management of edge factors such as lighting, urban runoff, toxics, and domestic predators shall be done when considering development in this area. Additionally, as SR-91 intersects the Linkage at its northern terminus, an adequate wildlife underpass or overpass may need to be implemented to ensure movement of species in this area and to reduce the chance of mortality from vehicle collision.

Constrained Linkage 4

Constrained Linkage 4 is comprised of the portion of Temescal Wash extending from Indiana Avenue to El Cerrito Road. This Linkage provides habitat for wetland species, narrow endemic plant species, and movement for species connecting to Core Areas in Lake Mathews/Estelle Mountain and areas upstream along Temescal Wash. The northern extent of this Linkage is constrained by existing development in the City of Corona. Planning Species for which habitat is provided within this Linkage include Parry's spine flower, peninsular spine

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flower, smooth tarplant, least Bell's vireo and southwestern willow flycatcher. Maintenance of habitat quality and floodplain processes along Temescal Wash are important for these species. This Linkage is affected by edge conditions and the treatment and management of edge conditions along affected portions of this Linkage adjacent to urban development in the City of Corona are necessary to ensure that it provides habitat and movement functions for species using the Linkage. MSHCP guidelines pertaining to Urban/Wildlands Interface for the management of edge factors such as lighting, urban runoff, toxics, and domestic predators shall be done when considering development in this area.

Page 5.4-43, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Figure 5.4-7, *Potential Wildlife Movement Corridors*, was revised to incorporate the MSHCP linkages No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4, in response to comment letter A6. Revised Figures are included in Appendix A of this Final EIR.

Pages 5.4-47 and 5.4-53, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Policy ER-6.3, ER-6.5, and ER-7.1 have been updated to ensure circulation improvements, adherence to the biological linkages in the MSHCP, and adherence to the MSHCP Guidelines have been incorporated into the General Plan.

- **ER-6.3** Ensure that new developments and circulation improvements demonstrate compliance with state and federal regulations concerning the status, location, and condition of significant and sensitive biological species and habitats and riparian and riverine corridors. Biological surveys, as required and defined by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan, should identify potential impacts on biological resources and include mitigation measures to protect/replace resources in like kind.

- **ER-6.5** Preserve wildlife habitat of significant natural open space areas, including expanding habitat ranges, movement corridors, and nesting sites by adhering to and implementing the core biological linkages identified in the MSHCP for parts of the Temescal Canyon Area Plan in the City. ~~setting aside lands between open space areas for biological linkages. Biological habitat linkages may include the use of riparian corridors, open space dedications, development of parks and/or natural resources, or greenbelts.~~ Any proposed recreational use of those areas such as trails shall be designed to ~~strictly avoid damaging sensitive habitat area.~~ not interfere with the preservation efforts established in the MSHCP.

- **ER-7.1** Require that public and private construction activities be conducted in a manner to minimize adverse impacts on natural resources and biological resources in proximity to MSHCP conservation areas and adhere to the MSHCP Guidelines pertaining to Urban/Wildlife Interface for drainage, toxics, lighting, noise, invasive barriers and grading [MSHCP Section 6.1.4] ~~resources through the use of best management practices established by the City of Corona and appropriate county, regional, state, and federal regulatory agencies.~~

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Page 5.4-54, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following text has been added to provide information on planned roadways, in response to comment letter A6.

Wetlands and riparian habitats within the undisturbed habitat may include those mapped on Figure 5.4-5, and include freshwater lakes/ponds, creeks, washes, aquifers, and other blue-line streams. Specifically, these water resources may support biological resources, including riparian vegetation and associated wildlife species. A CNDDDB query identified 12 special status natural communities that occur within the study area, as shown in Table 5.4-12, *Sensitive Natural Communities in the Study Area*. Six sensitive habitats have CNDDDB records within the City and SOI. These habitats include Southern California Arroyo Chub/Santa Ana Sucker Stream, Southern Coast Live Oak Riparian Forest, Southern Cottonwood Willow Riparian Forest, Southern Riparian Forest, Southern Sycamore Alder Riparian Woodland, and Southern Willow Scrub. All of the sensitive communities documented in the study area are associated with ephemeral or perennial water features, such as streams and washes.

Figure 7-1 in the MSHCP identifies existing and planned roadways in the Criteria Area, which were based on the City's previous General Plan Update (see Figure CE-1 of the General Plan). The roads are covered activities in Section 7.3.4 of the Western Riverside County MSHCP Criteria Area. Evaluations of planned roadways with respect to Conservation of biological resources have been conducted throughout the MSHCP planning process. The proposed project does not include any land use changes from the previous 2004 General Plan Update and changes to the circulation network in the sphere of influence (SOI) were made to reflect adopted plans within the County of Riverside. Future projects implemented by the City and/or private landowners are subject to CEQA, which includes evaluation of biological resources impacts and compatibility with the measures outlined in the MSHCP.

Pages 5.4-57, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. Impact 5.4-4 has been revised to include the MSHCP requirements for drainage, toxics, lighting, and invasives identified in Section 6.1.4 of the MSHCP, in response to comment letter A6.

In addition to these linkages identified in the MSHCP, open spaces areas within the built environment of the City and SOI provide refuge for some wildlife species, particularly birds and small animals such as lizards and butterflies. Golf courses, parks, and cemeteries typically have mature trees and may have water features, both important elements that provide food and cover for wildlife. Orchards and some other types of agricultural land uses may also offer some habitat value. However, the most prominent features that may provide valuable habitat linkage in the City and SOI are the Bedford Wash and the Temescal Canyon Wash; together these two ephemeral drainages connect the Cleveland National Forest and the Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve. This wildlife movement corridor is known as the Bedford Wash to Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve Corridor.

Drainages

Future projects in proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area shall incorporate measures, including measures required through the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) requirements, to ensure that

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the quantity and quality of runoff discharged to the MSHCP Conservation Area is not altered in an adverse way when compared with existing conditions. In particular, measures shall be put to avoid discharge of untreated surface runoff from developed and paved areas into the MSHCP Conservation Area. Stormwater systems shall be designed to prevent the release of toxins, chemicals, petroleum products, exotic plant materials or other elements that might degrade or harm biological resources or ecosystem processes within the MSHCP Conservation Area.

Toxics

Land uses within proximity to the MSHCP Conservation Area that use chemicals or generate bioproducts such as manure that are potentially toxic or may adversely affect wildlife species, habitat or water quality shall incorporate measures to ensure that application of such chemicals does not result in discharge to the MSHCP Conservation Area.

Lighting

Night lighting shall be directed away from the MSHCP Conservation Area to protect species within the MSHCP Conservation Area from direct night lighting. Shielding shall be incorporated in project designs of future projects to ensure ambient lighting in the MSHCP Conservation Area is not increased.

Noise

Future noise generating land uses affecting the MSHCP Conservation Area shall incorporate setbacks, berms, or walls to minimize the effects of noise on MSHCP Conservation Area resources pursuant to applicable rules, regulations, and guidelines related to land use noise standards.

Invasives

When approving landscape plans for development that is proposed adjacent to the MSHCP Conservation Area, Permittees shall consider the invasive, non-native plant species listed in Table 6-2 of the MSHCP and shall require revisions to landscape plans to avoid the use of invasive species for the portions of Development that are adjacent to the MSHCP Conservation Area.

Pages 5.4-64, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following requirement has been added to Mitigation Measure BIO-6 to provide information on habitat connectivity/wildlife corridor evaluation, in response to comment letter A6.

BIO-6 The City of Corona shall require a habitat connectivity/wildlife corridor evaluation for future development projects that may impact existing connectivity areas and wildlife linkages identified in Figure 5.4-7, *Potential Wildlife Movement Corridors*, of the Draft EIR, which includes the Bedford Wash to Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve Corridor. The results of the evaluation shall be incorporated into the project's biological report required under Mitigation Measure BIO-1. The evaluation shall also identify project design features that would reduce potential impacts and maintain habitat and wildlife movement. To this end, the City shall

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incorporate the following measures, to the extent practicable, for projects impacting wildlife movement corridors:

- Conduct a habitat connectivity/wildlife corridor evaluation for future development projects.
- Adhere to low density zoning standards.
- Encourage clustering of development.
- Avoid known sensitive biological resources.
- Provide shielded lighting adjacent to sensitive habitat areas.
- Encourage development plans that maximize wildlife movement.
- Provide buffers between development and wetland/riparian areas.
- Protect wetland/riparian areas through regulatory agency permitting process.
- Encourage wildlife-passable fence designs (e.g., 3-strand barbless wire fence) on property boundaries.
- Encourage preservation of native habitat on the undeveloped remainder of developed parcels.
- Minimize road/driveway development to help prevent loss of habitat due to roadkill and habitat loss.
- Use native, drought-resistant plant species in landscape design.
- Encourage participation in local/regional recreational trail design efforts.

Page 5.4-67, Section 5.4, *Biological Resources*. The following reference has been added for the Table 5.4-1 in response to comment letter A6.

Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). 2002. Implementing Agreement. <https://rctlma.org/Portals/0/mshcp/volume1/sec3.html>

SWCA Environmental Consultants. 2018, January. City of Corona General Plan Update: Biological Resources Technical Report.

Page 5.9-19, Section 5.9, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*. Policies LU-2.1 and LU-4.3 have been updated to include vegetation management and emergency access.

-
- **LU-2.1** ~~Locate and d~~Design development to reflect Corona's unique physical setting considering its natural topography, environmental resources, and natural hazards by including vegetation management

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

~~zones and emergency access roads within the project boundary, and opportunities for views in accordance with this plan's policies.~~

- **LU-4.3** Allow for the development of vacant lands on the periphery of existing development that complements the scale and pattern of existing uses; protects significant plant, animal, and other natural environmental resources by keeping vegetation management zones and emergency access roads within the project boundary; protects development and population from natural hazards; and where it is logical and feasible to extend infrastructure.

Page 5.9-25, Section 5.9, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*. Policies PS-10.6 and PS-10.7 have been updated to denote that these policies are applicable within the development footprint.

- **PS-10.6** Require fuel modification plans and vegetation clearance standards for development in VHFHSZs to protect structures from wildfire, protect wildlands from structure fires, and provide safe access routes for the community and firefighters within the project boundary, which may be extended pursuant to required findings when in accordance with state law, local ordinance, rule or regulation and no feasible mitigation measures are possible.
- **PS-10.7** Condition approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in VHFHSZs based on meeting or exceeding the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the fire hazard reduction around buildings and structures regulations within the project boundary, which may be extended pursuant to required findings when in accordance with state law, local ordinance, rule or regulation and no feasible mitigation measures are possible.

Page 5.10-31, Section 5.10, *Hydrology and Water Quality*. Policy ER-7.1 has been updated to include references to the MSHCP Guidelines.

- **ER-7.1** Require that public and private construction activities be conducted in a manner to minimize adverse impacts on natural resources and biological resources in proximity to MSHCP conservation areas and adhere to the MSHCP Guidelines pertaining to Urban/Wildlife Interface for drainage, toxics, lighting, noise, invasive barriers and grading [MSHCP Section 6.1.4] through the use of best management practices established by the City of Corona and appropriate county, regional, state, and federal regulatory agencies.

Pages 5.11-6 and 5.11-8, Section 5.11, *Land Use and Planning*. Policies LU-2.1 and LU-4.3 have been updated to include vegetation management and emergency access.

- **LU-2.1** ~~Locate and d~~Design development to reflect Corona's unique physical setting considering its natural topography, environmental resources, and natural hazards by including vegetation management zones and emergency access roads within the project boundary, and opportunities for views in accordance with this plan's policies.

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

- **LU-4.3** Allow for the development of vacant lands on the periphery of existing development that complements the scale and pattern of existing uses; protects significant plant, animal, and other natural environmental resources by keeping vegetation management zones and emergency access roads within the project boundary; protects development and population from natural hazards; and where it is logical and feasible to extend infrastructure.

Page 5.11-7, Section 5.11, *Land Use and Planning*. Policy LU-3.2 has been updated to ensure development does not exceed the maximum density allowed by the General Plan.

- **LU-3.2** Require that development not exceed the ~~occur within the range of~~ maximum and minimum densities consistent with ~~of~~ land use designations allowed by the general plan and implemented through zoning districts.

Page 5.11-36, Section 5.11, *Land Use and Planning*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

Impact 5.11-2: Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update ~~could~~ would not conflict with the Corona Municipal Airport ~~ALUCP~~ ALUCP. [Threshold LU-2]

Page 5.11-43, Section 5.11, *Land Use and Planning*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

The proposed project would not result in changes to land use designations, density, or intensity levels compared to the 2004 General Plan. ~~Therefore, although~~ As shown in Table 5.11-2 indicates that there are no inconsistencies in the proposed General Plan Update, ~~the 2004 General Plan was previously identified by the ALUC as conflicting with the ALUCP.~~ Additionally, as determined by ALUC at its meeting on March 12, 2020, the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP. Therefore, impacts would be less than significant. As a result, it is possible that the ALUC may identify inconsistencies between the City's General Plan Update and the ALUCP. The City of Corona has the ability to overrule the ALUC's determination by a two-thirds vote of the City Council. If the City does not overrule the determination, but nevertheless adopts the General Plan, the ALUC may require the City to submit all land use actions to it for review and determination. However, ~~as the determination of consistency of the proposed project with the ALUCP by the ALUC would not occur until after the Draft EIR is circulated and the ALUC identifies the potential inconsistencies, this impact is conservatively considered significant and unavoidable.~~

Conclusion

Based on this review and the analysis provided in Sections 5.9, *Hazards and Hazardous Materials*, and 5.13, *Noise*, of this DEIR, the proposed project land uses within the airport influence area of the Corona Municipal Airport would be generally consistent with the ALUCP as determined by ALUC at its meeting on March 12, 2020. ~~Therefore, impacts would be less than significant. However, the proposed project has not yet been before the~~

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

~~ALUC for a determination of consistency. If the ALUC determines that the proposed project is not consistent with the ALUCP for the Corona Municipal Airport, and the Corona City Council overrides this finding by a two-thirds vote, a significant unavoidable adverse impact would result and a Statement of Overriding Considerations would be required. Therefore, this impact is conservatively considered significant.~~

Page 5.11-44, Section 5.11, *Land Use and Planning*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

5.11-6 Level of Significance Before Mitigation

Upon implementation of regulatory requirements and standard conditions of approval, the following impact would be less than significant: 5.11-1 and 5.11-2.

~~Without mitigation, the following impact would be **potentially significant**:~~

- ~~• **Impact 5.11-2** The proposed project could conflict with the Corona Municipal Airport ALUCP.~~

5.11-7 Mitigation Measures

Impact 5.11-2

~~The General Plan includes policies to ensure consistency with the Corona Municipal Airport ALUCP. No additional mitigation measures are feasible.~~

No mitigation is required.

5.11-8 Level of Significance After Mitigation

Impact 5.11-2

~~The proposed project land uses within the airport influence area of the Corona Municipal Airport would be generally consistent with the Riverside County ALUCP for the Corona Municipal Airport. However, the ALUC is required to make a determination of consistency of a project with the ALUCP and Caltrans health and safety standards, which would occur prior to the adoption. The City of Corona has determined that the proposed project is generally consistent with ALUCP. However, the proposed project has not yet been before the ALUC for a determination of consistency. If the ALUC determines that the proposed project is not consistent with the ALUCP for the Corona Municipal Airport, and the Corona City Council overrides this finding by a two-thirds vote, a significant unavoidable adverse impact would result and a Statement of Overriding Considerations would be required. Therefore, Impact 5.11-2 is conservatively considered significant and unavoidable.~~

Impacts would be less than significant.

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Pages 5.15-17 and 5.15-18, Section 5.15, *Public Services*. Policies PS-10.6 and PS-10.7 have been updated to denote that these policies are applicable within the development footprint.

- **PS-10.6** Require fuel modification plans and vegetation clearance standards for development in VHFHSZs to protect structures from wildfire, protect wildlands from structure fires, and provide safe access routes for the community and firefighters within the project boundary, which may be extended pursuant to required findings when in accordance with state law, local ordinance, rule or regulation and no feasible mitigation measures are possible.
- **PS-10.7** Condition approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in VHFHSZs based on meeting or exceeding the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the fire hazard reduction around buildings and structures regulations within the project boundary, which may be extended pursuant to required findings when in accordance with state law, local ordinance, rule or regulation and no feasible mitigation measures are possible.

Page 5.15-47, Section 5.15, *Public Services*. The following text was revised to reflect the current services provided by the Corona Public Library.

Corona Public Library

The Corona Public Library is located at ~~605~~ 650 South Main Street, and is a 62,000-square-foot facility. The library has a total of 122,500 registered members, 38,500 of which are children. The library's collections consist of 152,500 items, including books, videos, CDs, CDROM software, audio cassettes, books on tape, and pamphlets. The Corona Public Library also contains 50 internet terminals; the total circulation for the 2016-2017 year was 878,683 items, which included electronic and print items (CPL 2017). The library contains the W.D. Addison Heritage Room which covers all periods of time, and includes photographs, rare books, newspapers, citrus labels, manuscripts, oral histories, artefacts, and other items available for the public to view. The two predominant functions of the library are as follows:

- ~~Library Collection Services~~ – provides research assistance to the public; maintains the Integrated Library System; evaluates, selects, and processes print and electronic materials; and supervises operations and patron use of extensive collections of local history resources and artifacts in the Heritage Room; and
- ~~Account Services~~—oversees activities related to materials circulation, patron accounts, and passport services (Corona 2019b).
- Programming/Outreach Services – The Community Outreach Team is responsible for all internal promotion and coordination of marketing efforts with the City's Community Division. The team also coordinates with local businesses, community organizations, and area agencies to develop partnerships, garner program sponsorships, and communicate department activities to residents. Division staff operate Library and Recreation "On the Go" to provide activities including library card and program registration throughout the community. They also provide children, teen, and adult library programs, activities and special events, and administer the volunteer and adult reading assistance programs.

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Page 5.16-4, Section 5.16, *Recreation*. The following text was revised to reflect the covered activities of the MSHCP on the City's proposed and existing trails.

Trails are a valued asset for many residents of the City of Corona who enjoy hiking, bicycling, and walking in the natural areas within and surrounding the community. The City of Corona is Permittee to the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). The MSHCP identifies existing and planned trails in the City and SOI. Covered uses on these adopted regional trails will include hiking, mountain biking, and equestrian use. The General Plan has established the following general classes of trails:

Page 5.16-17, Section 5.16, *Recreation*. Policies PR-6.3 and PR-6.6 have been revised to include references to the MSHCP.

- **PR-6.3** Encourage creation of a multipurpose trail system for hiking, biking, and equestrian use in areas commonly used for these purposes, such as along washes, creeks, drainages, hillsides, parks, and other public use areas. Trails created within MSHCP conservation areas that are not identified as a covered activity in the Western Riverside County MSHCP are to avoid and minimize impacts on biological resources by following the Guidelines for the Siting and Design of Trails and Facilities [MSHCP Section 7.4.2].
 - **PR-6.6** Locate, design, and regulate the use of multipurpose trails so that they reflect the character and environment where they are located and do not negatively impact natural habitat, wildlife, landforms, or cultural resources or MSHCP Conservation areas.
-

Page 5.16-22, Section 5.16, *Recreation*. The Western Riverside County MSHCP was added to the Local Regulations section.

Local Regulations

- City of Corona Municipal Code, Chapter 16.23, *Development Impact Fees*
 - City of Corona Municipal Code, Chapter 16.35, *Park Dedication and In-Lieu Fees*
 - Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
-

Page 5.17-23, Section 5.17, *Transportation*. Policy LU-2.1 has been updated to include vegetation management and emergency access.

- **LU-2.1** ~~Locate and d~~Design development to reflect Corona's unique physical setting considering its natural topography, environmental resources, and natural hazards by including vegetation management zones and emergency access roads within the project boundary, and opportunities for views in accordance with this plan's policies.
-

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Page 5.17-24, Section 5.17, *Transportation*. Policy LU-3.2 has been updated to ensure development does not exceed the maximum density allowed by the General Plan.

- **LU-3.2** Require that development ~~not exceed the~~ ~~occur within the range of~~ maximum and minimum densities ~~consistent with~~ of land use designations allowed by the general plan and implemented through zoning districts.

Page 5.17-33, Section 5.17, *Transportation*. Policies PR-6.3 and PR-6.6 have been revised to include references to the MSHCP.

- **PR-6.3** Encourage creation of a multipurpose trail system for hiking, biking, and equestrian use in areas commonly used for these purposes, such as along washes, creeks, drainages, hillsides, parks, and other public use areas. Trails created within MSHCP conservation areas that are not identified as a covered activity in the Western Riverside County MSHCP are to avoid and minimize impacts on biological resources by following the Guidelines for the Siting and Design of Trails and Facilities [MSHCP Section 7.4.2].
- **PR-6.6** Locate, design, and regulate the use of multipurpose trails so that they reflect the character and environment where they are located and do not negatively impact natural habitat, wildlife, landforms, or cultural resources or MSHCP Conservation areas.

Page 5.19-8, Section 5.19, *Utilities and Service Systems*. Policy IU-3.8 has been revised at the request of the Home Garden Sanitation District to reflect that new development may be connected to a sewer system.

- **IU-3.8** Require that new development be connected to ~~the City's~~ a sewer system.

Page 5.20-18, Section 5.20, *Wildfire*. Policies LU-2.1 and LU-4.3 have been updated to include vegetation management and emergency access.

- **LU-2.1** ~~Locate and d~~Design development to reflect Corona's unique physical setting considering its natural topography, environmental resources, and natural hazards by including vegetation management zones and emergency access roads within the project boundary, and opportunities for views in accordance with this plan's policies.
- **LU-4.3** Allow for the development of vacant lands on the periphery of existing development that complements the scale and pattern of existing uses; protects significant plant, animal, and other natural environmental resources by keeping vegetation management zones and emergency access roads within the project boundary; protects development and population from natural hazards; and where it is logical and feasible to extend infrastructure.

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Pages 5.20-21 and 5.20-22, Section 5.20, *Wildfire*. Policies PS-10.6 and PS-10.7 have been updated to denote that these policies are applicable within the development footprint.

- **PS-10.6** Require fuel modification plans and vegetation clearance standards for development in VHFHSZs to protect structures from wildfire, protect wildlands from structure fires, and provide safe access routes for the community and firefighters within the project boundary, which may be extended pursuant to required findings when in accordance with state law, local ordinance, rule or regulation and no feasible mitigation measures are possible.
 - **PS-10.7** Condition approval of parcel maps and tentative maps in VHFHSZs based on meeting or exceeding the SRA Fire Safe Regulations and the fire hazard reduction around buildings and structures regulations within the project boundary, which may be extended pursuant to required findings when in accordance with state law, local ordinance, rule or regulation and no feasible mitigation measures are possible.
-

Page 5.20-30, Section 5.20, *Wildfire*. The Western Riverside County MSHCP was added to the Regional Regulations section.

Regional

- Riverside County Unit Fire Plan
 - County of Riverside Multi-Jurisdictional Local Hazard Management Plan
 - Riverside County Local Agency Formation Commission
 - Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
-

Page 6-3, Chapter 6, *Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

Land Use and Planning

- ~~**Impact 5.11-2.** The proposed project land uses within the airport influence area of the Corona Municipal Airport would be generally consistent with the Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). However, the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) is required to make a determination of consistency of a project with the ALUCP and Caltrans health and safety standards, which would occur prior to the adoption. While land uses within the airport influence area identified in the land use Plan are generally consistent with ALUCP, the proposed project has not yet been before ALUC for a determination of consistency. If ALUC determines that the proposed project is not consistent with the ALUCP for the Corona Municipal Airport, and the Corona City Council overrides this finding by a two-thirds vote, a significant unavoidable adverse impact would result, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations would be required. Therefore, this impact is conservatively considered *significant and unavoidable*.~~

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Page 7-5, Chapter 7, *Alternatives to the Proposed Project*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

Land Use and Planning

- ~~Impact 5.11-2.~~ The proposed project land uses within the airport influence area of the Corona Municipal Airport would be generally consistent with the Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP). However, the Airport Land Use Commission (ALUC) is required to make a determination of consistency of a project with the ALUCP and Caltrans health and safety standards, which would occur prior to the adoption. While land uses within the airport influence area identified in the land use Plan are generally consistent with ALUCP, the proposed project has not yet been before ALUC for a determination of consistency. If ALUC determines that the proposed project is not consistent with the ALUCP for the Corona Municipal Airport, and the Corona City Council overrides this finding by a two-thirds vote, a significant unavoidable adverse impact would result, and a Statement of Overriding Considerations would be required. Therefore, this impact is conservatively considered ***significant and unavoidable***.

Page 7-7, Chapter 7, *Alternatives to the Proposed Project*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

An EIR must identify an “environmentally superior” alternative and where the No Project Alternative is identified as environmentally superior, the EIR is then required to identify as environmentally superior an alternative from among the others evaluated. Each alternative's environmental impacts are compared to the proposed project and determined to be environmentally superior, neutral, or inferior. However, only those impacts found significant and unavoidable are used in making the final determination of whether an alternative is environmentally superior or inferior to the proposed project. Only the impacts involving cultural resources (historic), air quality, agricultural resources, GHG, ~~land use and planning (ALUC consistency)~~, noise, and transportation were found to be significant and unavoidable. Section 7.7 identifies the Environmentally Superior Alternative. The preferred land use alternative (proposed project) is analyzed in detail in Chapter 5 of this DEIR.

Page 7-11 through 7-12, Chapter 7, *Alternatives to the Proposed Project*, Section 7.4-11, *Land Use and Planning*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

This alternative would leave the current General Plan in place rather than providing a technical update and CAP update. ~~While~~ The land uses within the airport influence area identified in the land use plan is consistent with the Riverside County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (ALUCP) for the Corona Municipal Airport, determined by the ALUC at its meeting on March 12, 2020. ~~the proposed project has not yet been before ALUC for a determination of consistency; and~~ Therefore, impacts associated with this alternative, like the proposed project, would be less than significant. Neither this alternative nor the proposed project would divide an established community. However, the current General Plan is not consistent with new or updated state and local planning laws such as the California Complete Streets Act of 2008 and the Southern California Association

3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

of Government’s 2016-2040 Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategies (RTP/SCS). The Complete Streets Act of 2008 requires that cities plan for a multimodal transportation network that serves motorized and nonmotorized modes of transportation, and the 2016-2040 RTP/SCS encourages three principles that collectively work as the key to the region’s future – mobility, economy and sustainability. Goals and policies in the proposed General Plan Update Circulation Element address the need to establish an interconnected network of bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure that is safe, efficient, and accessible. Comprehensive transit services related to mobility, connectivity, and safety are also addressed. However, since the existing General Plan was prepared in 2004, the new state planning laws would not be reflected. This alternative would not implement policies regarding ALUC, complete streets, and reusing industrial land uses. Therefore, the land use impacts would be slightly increased under this alternative in comparison to the proposed General Plan Update; like the proposed project, this alternative would be less than significant ~~(ALUCP consistency)~~.

Page 7-18, Chapter 7, *Alternatives to the Proposed Project*, Section 7.5-11, *Land Use and Planning*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

This alternative would increase intensity of land uses near the transit station. Neither this alternative nor the proposed project would divide an established community. Mitigation measures and policies identified for the General Plan Update would be applicable to this alternative. Therefore, this alternative would ensure that the General Plan is consistent with the current regulations and policies (e.g., wildfire, climate change, complete streets, etc.). ~~However, the General Plan Update has not yet been before~~ has been determined by the ALUC for a determination of consistency to be consistent with the ALUCP; and therefore, impacts associated with this alternative, like the proposed project, are considered to be less than significant. Therefore, the land use impacts of this alternative would be similar to the proposed project and would be less than significant.

Page 7-21, Chapter 7, *Alternatives to the Proposed Project*, Table 7-5, *Summary of Impacts of Alternatives Compared to the Proposed Project*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

Land Use and Planning	S/U/LTS	=	=
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3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Page 1-34, Table ES-3, *Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Level of Significance After Mitigation*, Section 1.8, *Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Level of Significance After Mitigation*. The following requirement has been added to Mitigation Measure BIO-6 to provide information on habitat connectivity/wildlife corridor evaluation, in response to comment letter A6.

<p>Impact 5.4-4: Development pursuant to the proposed General Plan Update could adversely impact wildlife movement in the Bedford Wash to Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve Corridor.</p>	<p>Significant</p>	<p>BIO-6 The City of Corona shall require a habitat connectivity/wildlife corridor evaluation for future development projects that may impact existing connectivity areas and wildlife linkages identified in Figure 5.4-7, <i>Potential Wildlife Movement Corridors</i>, of the Draft EIR, which includes the Bedford Wash to Lake Mathews Estelle Mountain Reserve Corridor. The results of the evaluation shall be incorporated into the project's biological report required under Mitigation Measure BIO-1. The evaluation shall also identify project design features that would reduce potential impacts and maintain habitat and wildlife movement. To this end, the City shall incorporate the following measures, to the extent practicable, for projects impacting wildlife movement corridors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Conduct a habitat connectivity/wildlife corridor evaluation for future development projects.</u> • Adhere to low density zoning standards. • Encourage clustering of development. • Avoid known sensitive biological resources. • Provide shielded lighting adjacent to sensitive habitat areas. • Encourage development plans that maximize wildlife movement. • Provide buffers between development and wetland/riparian areas. • Protect wetland/riparian areas through regulatory agency permitting process. • Encourage wildlife-passable fence designs (e.g., 3-strand barbless wire fence) on property boundaries. • Encourage preservation of native habitat on the undeveloped remainder of developed parcels. • Minimize road/driveway development to help prevent loss of habitat due to roadkill and habitat loss. • Use native, drought-resistant plant species in landscape design. • Encourage participation in local/regional recreational trail design efforts. 	<p>Less Than Significant</p>
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3. Revisions to the Draft EIR

Page 1-44, Table ES-3, *Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Level of Significance After Mitigation*, Section 1.8, *Summary of Environmental Impacts, Mitigation Measures, and Level of Significance After Mitigation*. The following has been revised to reflect that the Riverside County ALUC identified that the General Plan Update is consistent with the ALUCP.

5.11 LAND USE AND PLANNING			
Impact 5.11-1: Project implementation would not divide an established community.	Less Than Significant	No mitigation is required.	Less Than Significant
Impact 5.11-2: Implementation of the proposed General Plan Update could would not conflict with the Corona Municipal Airport ALCUP/ALUCP.	Significant Less Than Significant	No feasible mitigation measures were identified. On March 12, 2020 the Airport Land Use Commission Determined that the General Plan was consistent with the Airport Land Use Plan.	Significant and Unavoidable Less Than Significant

Appendix A. Revised Figures

Appendix

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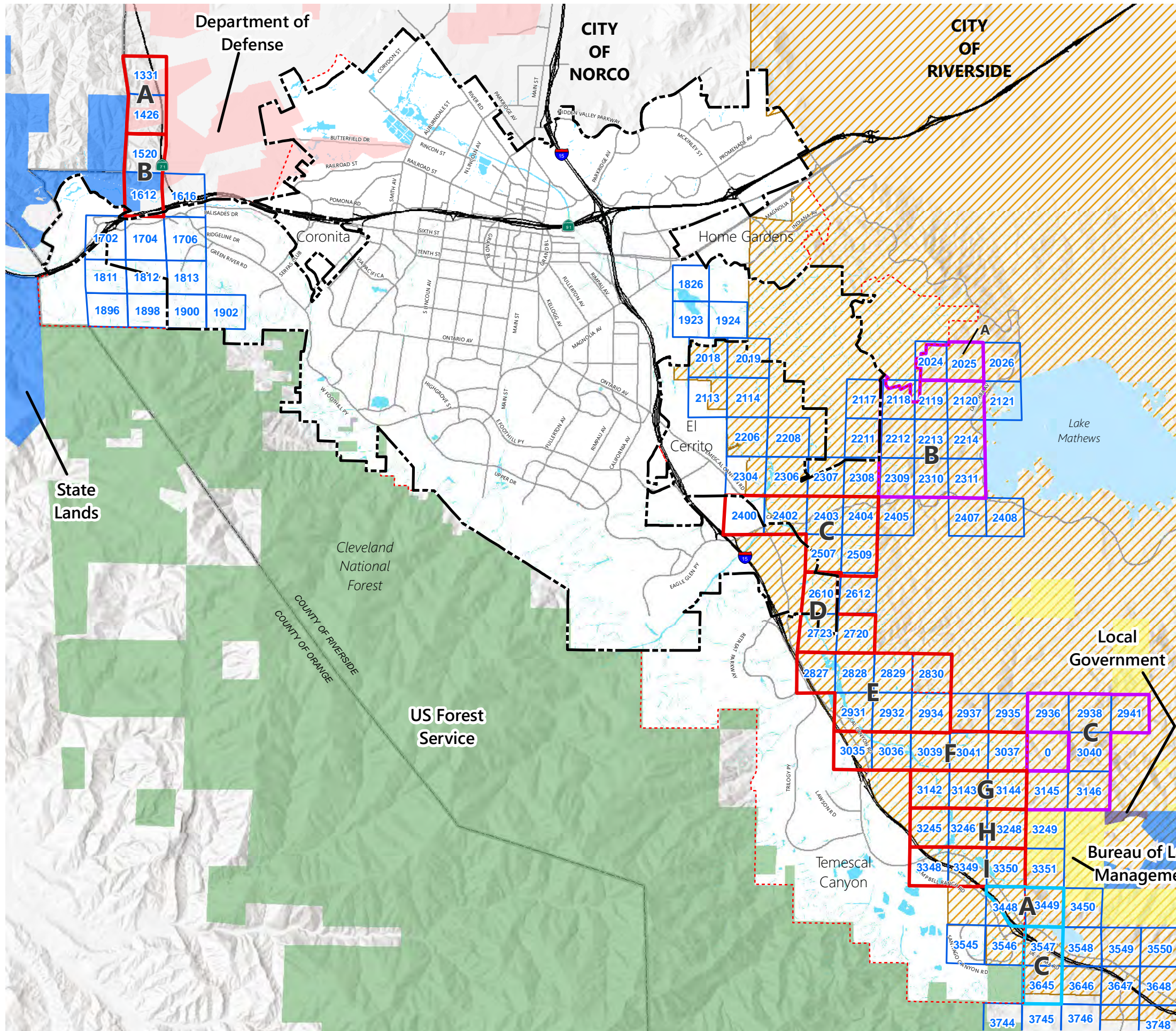


Figure 5.4-1
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
MSHCP CRITERIA CELLS AND
SUBUNITS

- Legend**
- City Boundary
 - Sphere of Influence Areas
 - Criteria Cells
 - Administrative Unit**
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - US Forest Service
 - Department of Defense
 - Local Government
 - State Lands
 - MSHCP Cell Groups**
 - Elsinore Area Plan
 - Lake Mathews/Woodcrest Area Plan
 - Temescal Canyon Area Plan
 - Open Water
 - Stephens Kangaroo Rat Fee Area

Source:
SCWA 2017
Regional Conservation Authority Western Riverside County 2020

Appendix

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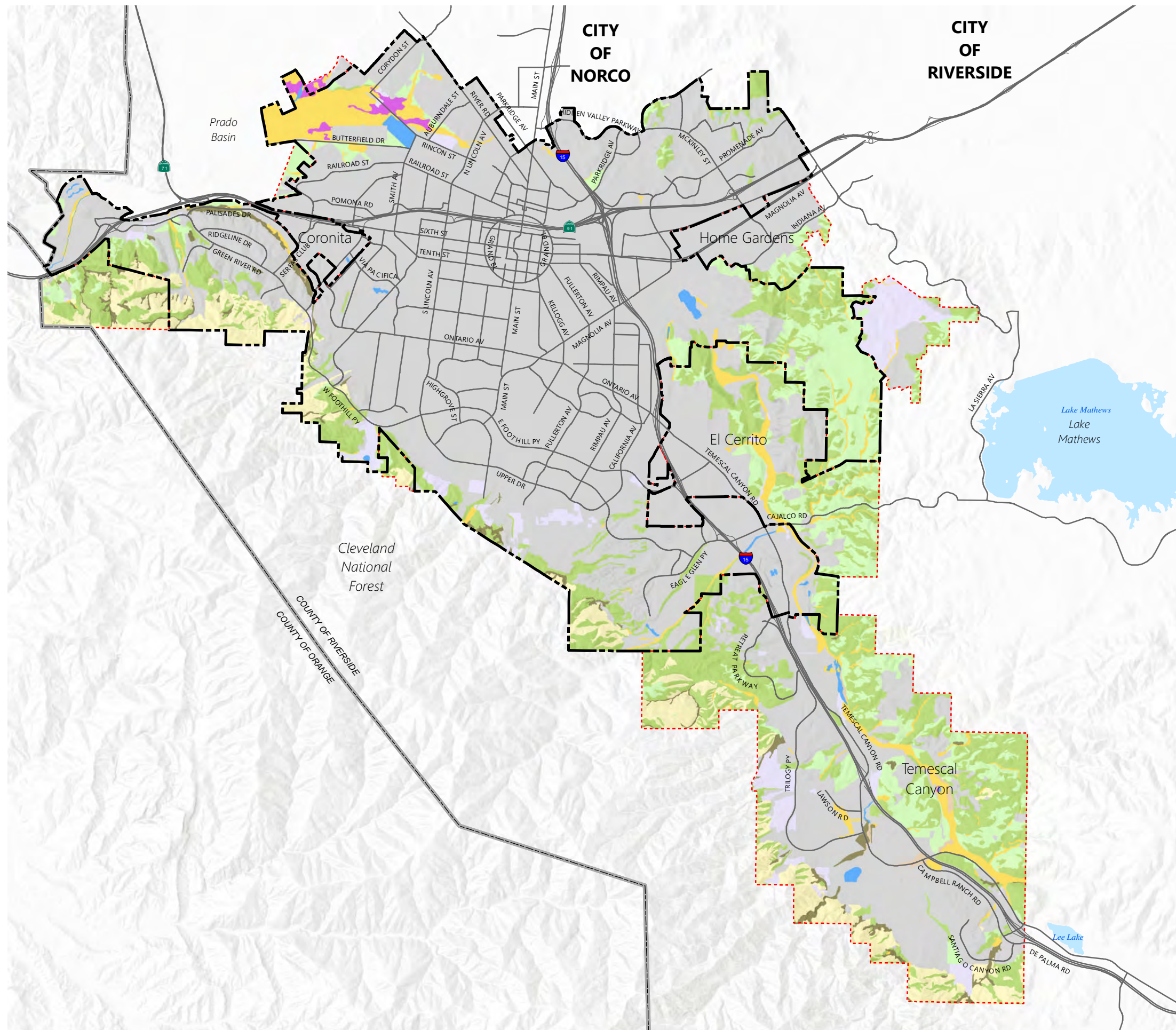


Figure 5.4-6
VEGETATION

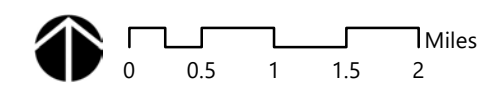
Legend

- City Boundary
- Sphere of Influence Areas
- Agricultural Land
- Chaparral
- Coastal Sage Scrub
- Desert Scrub
- Developed/Disturbed Land
- Grassland
- Meadows and Marshes
- Montane Coniferous Forest
- No Equivalent
- Playas and Vernal Pools
- Riparian Scrub, Woodland, Forest
- Riversidian Alluvial Fan Sage Scrub
- Water
- Woodland and Forests

Source:
SCWA 2017



CORONA
General Plan
EIR



Date Saved: 2/18/2020

Appendix

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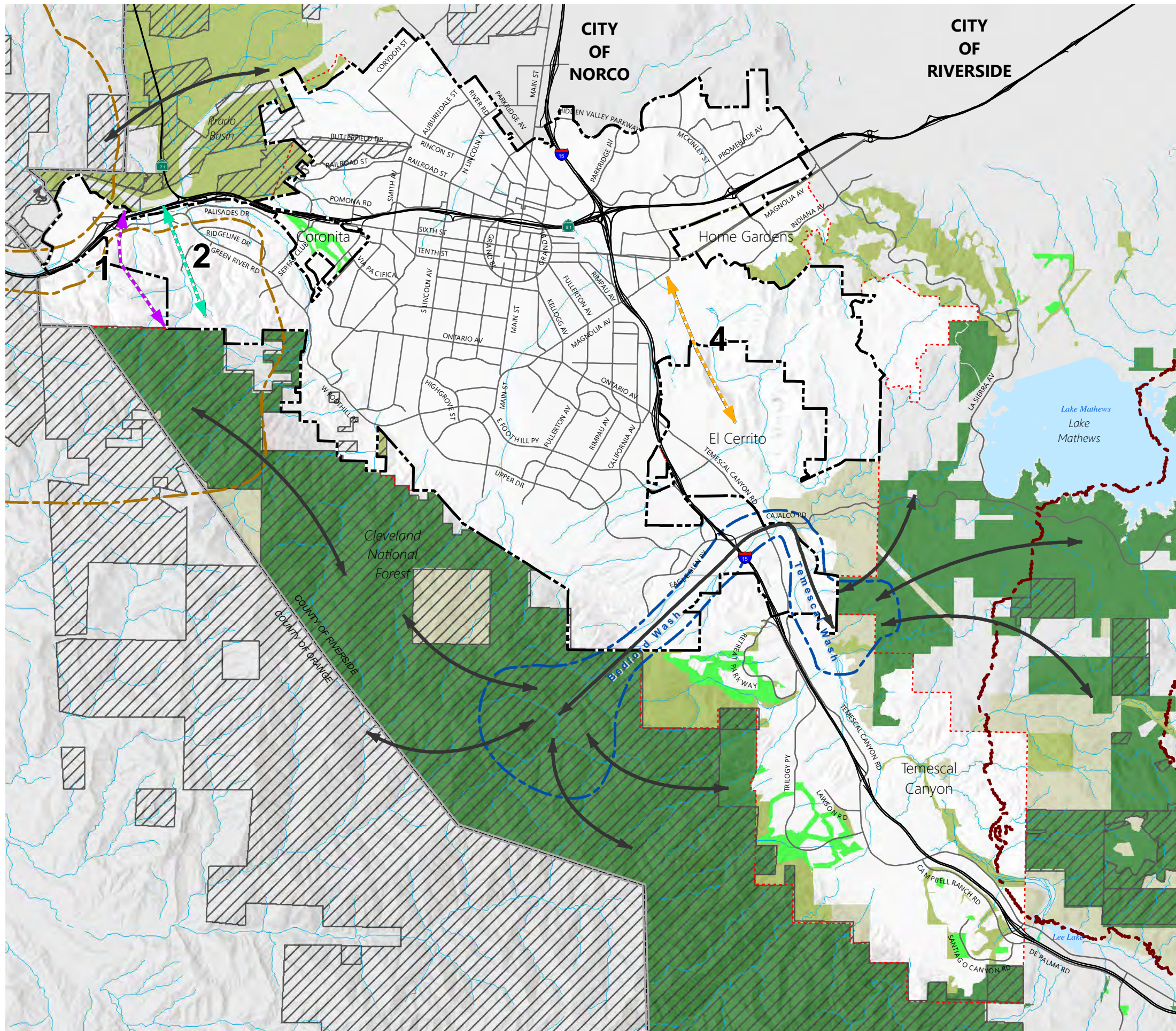


Figure 5.4-7
 POTENTIAL WILDLIFE
 MOVEMENT CORRIDORS

Legend

- City Boundary
- Sphere of Influence Areas
- Essential Connectivity Areas Corridors**
 - Bedford Wash to Lake Mathews
 - Estelle Mountain Reserve Corridor
 - Discontiguous: CNF - Santa Ana Mountains
 - Estelle Mountain - Lake Matthews
- State Managed Area
- Conservation
- Conservation Habitat
- Open Space Recreation
- Open Space Rural
- Wildlife Movement
- MSHCP Proposed Linkage No.1
- MSHCP Proposed Linkage No.2
- MSHCP Proposed Linkage No.4
- Streams and Rivers

Note:
 Proposed Constrained Linkage No. 1, No. 2, and No. 4 are approximate locations based on Figure 3-2, Schematic Cores and Linkages Map, of the MSHCP.

Source:
 SCWA 2017

Date Saved: 3/5/2020

Appendix

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